



# Course Companion

For GCSE (9–1) OCR Food Preparation  
and Nutrition

Section C: Cooking and Food Preparation

## OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

An OCR endorsed textbook

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# Contents

Thank You for Choosing ZigZag Education.....	ii
Teacher Feedback Opportunity .....	iii
Terms and Conditions of Use .....	iv
Teacher's Introduction.....	1
<b>Chapter 1: Food science .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Why and how food is cooked.....	3
The working characteristics, and functional and chemical properties of cooking ingredients.....	16
Bonus chapter: the most common faults in cooking and how to prevent them .....	37
Quiz-ine .....	43
<b>Chapter 2: Sensory properties .....</b>	<b>44</b>
Sensory evaluation .....	45
Quiz-ine .....	53
<b>Chapter 3: Food safety.....</b>	<b>54</b>
Microorganisms (food spoilage).....	56
Microorganisms (food production) .....	65
Buying food .....	69
Storing food.....	77
Preparing, cooking and serving food.....	82
Quiz-ine .....	93
<b>Answers .....</b>	<b>94</b>
Chapter 1 – Food science .....	94
Chapter 2 – Sensory properties.....	99
Chapter 3 – Food safety .....	100

# Teacher's Introduction

This resource is designed to meet the **Section C: Cooking and food preparation** element of the OCR GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition qualification.

## What it covers

The resource comprises three chapters covering the following:

Chapter 1: Food science	Chapter 2: Sensory properties	Chapter 3: Food safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The reasons why food is cooked</li> <li>Different methods of heat transfer</li> <li>How different cooking methods affect food</li> <li>The working characteristics, and functional and chemical properties of cooking ingredients</li> <li><b>Bonus chapter:</b> The most common faults in cooking and how to prevent them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensory evaluation</li> <li>Organoleptic properties of food and sensory systems</li> <li>Sensory testing methods</li> <li>Preference tests</li> <li>Discrimination tests</li> <li>Grading tests</li> <li>Taste panels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Microorganisms (food spoilage)</li> <li>High-risk foods</li> <li>Microorganisms (food production)</li> <li>The role of yeast, mould and bacteria in food production</li> <li>Food safety principles when:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>buying food</li> <li>storing food</li> <li>preparing, cooking and serving food</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## How to use this resource

The resource covers all aspects of Section C: Cooking and food preparation and is designed to increase knowledge of the topic and enable learners to test their understanding and skills through a variety of assessment methods.

**Learning Outcomes** enable the learner to clearly see what they are expected to know at the end of each chapter.

The **Overview** provides a brief summary of what will be covered in the chapter and the **Key Terms** box provides information on key terms within the resource (key terms are emboldened within the chapter text).

<b>Did you know</b>	These boxes contain handy tips.
<b>Things to think about</b>	These boxes provide learners with a chance to develop cognitive skills, do some research (books, Internet, people) and take part in a discussion.
<b>Apply</b>	These boxes provide the learner with the opportunity to further their skills, either through cognitive or practical application.
<b>Qs</b>	Learners' knowledge and understanding is tested through quick Y/N questions.
<b>Skills</b>	Based on the suggested application of the skills section (Section D) of the OCR GCSE Food Preparation specification, these test learners' skills in food preparation and cooking through practical application.
<b>Revision tip</b>	Useful tips are given to help the learner concentrate on important aspects that may appear in the final assessment.
<b>Check your understanding</b>	A combination of multiple-choice questions and practice questions appear at the end of each section to test knowledge and understanding.
<b>Quiz-ine</b>	There is a crossword-style quiz at the end of each chapter to test learners' understanding of key terms used within the resource. The shaded squares spell out a word associated with the chapter text.
<b>Answers</b>	Answers to questions are provided at the end of the resource.

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# Chapter 1: Food science

## Overview

In this chapter you will learn why we cook food, how heat is transferred to food and how the cooking method can affect the nutritional value and palatability of the dish. You will also discover why and how various ingredients are used in cooking. You will also have a chance to explore why the results are not always achieved, and how to prevent cooking faults.

## Learning Outcomes

After studying this chapter you should be able to do the following:

- ☐ identify the main reasons behind cooking food
- ☐ identify foods that cannot be eaten raw and reasons why
- ☐ understand how preparation affects sensory characteristics
- ☐ define what conduction, convection and radiation are
- ☐ know how conduction, convection and radiation work
- ☐ indicate the main processes that take place while cooking
- ☐ understand the physical and chemical properties of food
- ☐ explain why and how certain chemical reactions take place
- ☐ indicate how to prevent or trigger certain reactions
- ☐ identify the main reasons why particular results may occur in a situation in such cases

## Key Terms

<b>Aeration</b>	The process of incorporating air between fat particles in a food mass lighter
<b>Caramelisation</b>	The process of browning sugars in the presence of high heat
<b>Conduction</b>	The process of exchanging heat between two objects at different temperature, without the use of any means of water or air (thus the objects must touch each other); this is a direct way of transferring heat
<b>Convection</b>	A process of exchanging heat between two objects through a fluid; this is an indirect way of transferring heat
<b>Dextrinisation</b>	The process of breaking down long starch chains into smaller ones
<b>Emulsification</b>	The process of combining water and oil together to create a stable mixture
<b>Enzymic browning</b>	The process of enzymic breakdown due to plant cell wall enzymes
<b>Foam formation</b>	The process of trapping air bubbles between proteins to make a food lighter and more susceptible to growth
<b>Food safety</b>	All conditions and actions taken to make food safe to eat
<b>Gelatinisation</b>	The process of breaking down the chemical bonds in starch of water and heat
<b>Gluten formation</b>	The process of creating a strong elastic, net-like structure in wheat water
<b>Infrared</b>	Type of invisible radiation emitted by all living organisms
<b>Microwaves</b>	Type of electromagnetic waves with the frequencies between 300 MHz and 300 GHz, used, for example, in microwave ovens
<b>Oxidation</b>	The process of substances (such as vitamins) decomposing
<b>Plasticity</b>	Ability of solid fats to soften over a range of temperatures and spread with light pressure
<b>Protein coagulation</b>	The process of changing proteins from liquid to gel
<b>Protein denaturation</b>	The process of damaging proteins' chemical structure
<b>Radiation</b>	A process in which a wave of heat is being sent without the need for a medium; this is an indirect way of transferring heat
<b>Shortening</b>	The process in which fat particles surround flour particles to make formation impossible

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# Why and how food is cooked

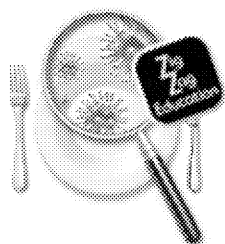
Knowing how various cooking ingredients react to different preparation and cooking methods can help you create a healthy, tasty and appetising dish. The cooking time and temperature are just as important as the correct cooking method.

## The reasons why food is cooked

Food is cooked not just to taste nice, but to make it safe, change the textures, to provide variety in our diets. Let's discover in a bit more depth some of these reasons.

### To make food safe to eat

One of the greatest advantages of cooking is that it makes our food safe to eat by killing harmful substances.



*Salmonella* is a species of bacteria known to cause gastric problems. Symptoms of infection include stomach ache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea. It is commonly found in eggs, poultry and meat, milk, and products that contain raw eggs and creams. For this reason it is not advisable to eat these products. Also it is better not to freeze food again once it has been defrosted because it allows bacteria to grow.

#### Revision

Check your  
**tip**  
food safety.



sure

Other bacteria found in food include *Escherichia coli* (which usually live in our bowels but are poisonous when in food), *Shigella* (which causes dysentery), *Yersinia enterocolitica* (which causes symptoms similar to *Salmonella*).

One of the most dangerous bacteria found in food is *Clostridium botulinum*, which produces a toxin that paralyses the nerves and may lead to death (if it paralyses the intercostal muscles responsible for breathing). Thankfully, there is a visible sign of its presence: if the lid of a tuna or meat preserve can is bulging, you definitely should not eat its contents.

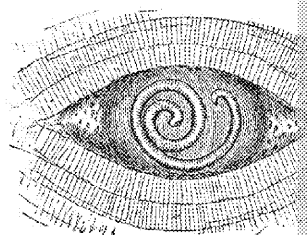
Most bacteria are killed at temperatures over 65 °C. Cooking food at temperature for an appropriate time ensures that all the bacteria and spores are neutralised.

Other poisonous agents in food include toxins, pesticides, enzymes, mycotoxins and

- Solanine is a green-coloured toxin present in badly stored potatoes (it is produced when they are exposed to sunlight), green tomatoes and other foods. Eating them raw may cause stomach ache, diarrhoea or fever, so it is best to cook them thoroughly to avoid such troubles.
- Aflatoxin is a harmful substance produced by moulds. It is often found in peanuts, grains and other products which are stored in improper conditions. They are very toxic and can lead to liver inflammation, gastrointestinal problems and cancer.

### Did you know?

Wild boars are carriers of the *Trichinella spiralis* parasite and, therefore, their meat cannot be eaten raw!



*Trichinella spiralis* is a parasite living in muscle cells which causes trichinosis if eaten raw. Symptoms of infection include very high fever, shivering and muscle pains. To prevent that, all meat is cooked thoroughly before it can find its way to shops.

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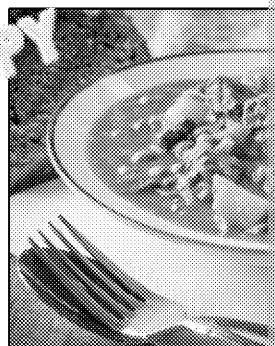
## To develop flavours and smells

Cooking allows development of flavours in a number of ways:

- it evaporates water and, therefore, makes the flavour of its residue more pronounced
- it causes sugars to caramelise, which is especially advantageous in such products as jams and even certain vegetables, such as onion or carrot
- during cooking, aromatic molecules evaporate and make the smell more intense. Some of the compounds present in foods are called essential oils (present in large amounts in mint)
- it allows combination of different ingredients, which leads to developing new flavours



*This plum chutney uses both caramelisation and water evaporation to obtain its strong flavour*



*Traditional Irish stew is cooked slowly which allows the fat to melt and gives it its characteristic texture*

Cooking allows us to create the pronounced flavour of stews, jams, sauces or chutneys. Breaking down the structure of cells and freeing the aromatic chemical compounds from the ingredients is also helpful in developing the desired flavour and smells, e.g. by adding spices.

## To improve texture and aid digestion

You have probably noticed that cooked meat is easier not only to cut, but also to bite and chew. This is because cooking softens and loosens muscle fibres, which makes the meat softer. Also, during cooking, fat melts and penetrates the meat, making it juicy. This is not only important for your taste buds, but also makes it much easier to eat for those who cannot bite or chew, or experience various digestive issues: babies, elderly, and people suffering from Crohn's disease or irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), etc.

Cooking (especially frying, grilling and baking) also makes certain foods crunchy/crispy – which is more desirable by some. This includes meats, bread and pastries, and chips and crisps.

During cooking, some foods change their physical state – from liquid to solid (or the other way around). You can obtain the desired texture by simply adjusting cooking time, e.g. four minutes for a soft-boiled egg and 10 minutes for a hard-boiled one, or 10 minutes for a thin sauce and 30 minutes for a thicker one.

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## Things to think about (1.1)

Identify some foods which are difficult to digest and discuss how cooking could aid digestion.

### To improve shelf life

Applying high temperatures is a great way of preserving food. This is because most harmful microorganism species die at temperatures above 65 °C. For this reason, cooking kills most of the bacteria or mould normally present in food and prevents **spoilage**. In this way, if correctly stored, food can last longer and maintain all of its nutritional values.



### Things to think about <sup>(1.2)</sup> *for discussion and thought*

1. Discuss the 'use by' and/or 'best before' dates of various food items that are stored differently; for example, fresh fish, frozen and tinned fish. Note down whether the food items are cooked or not and how this impacts on the shelf life of the food.
2. Discuss why some cooked foods and raw foods have a 'use by' date or a 'best before' date.

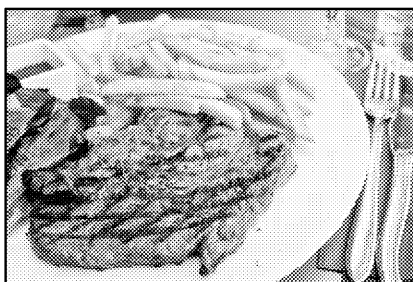
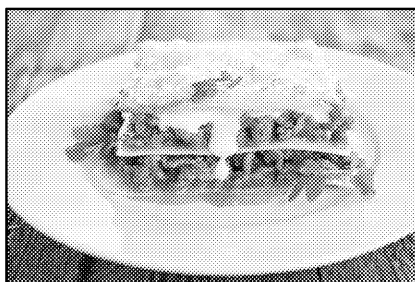


### To give food variety

Cooking also allows us to have variety in our diets. This is because of two reasons:

- Different cooking techniques allow us to prepare the same product in a number of ways, for example, baked or fried.
- Different combinations of foods, seasoning, herbs and spices make it possible to create a large number of different dishes using the same main ingredient.

For example, beef can be used to prepare carpaccio, steaks, burgers, stews, soups (such as bolognese sauce), and so on.



*Lasagne, steaks and burgers are examples of foods made with beef, but each has a unique way in which they are prepared and cooked, and through the combinations of other ingredients.*

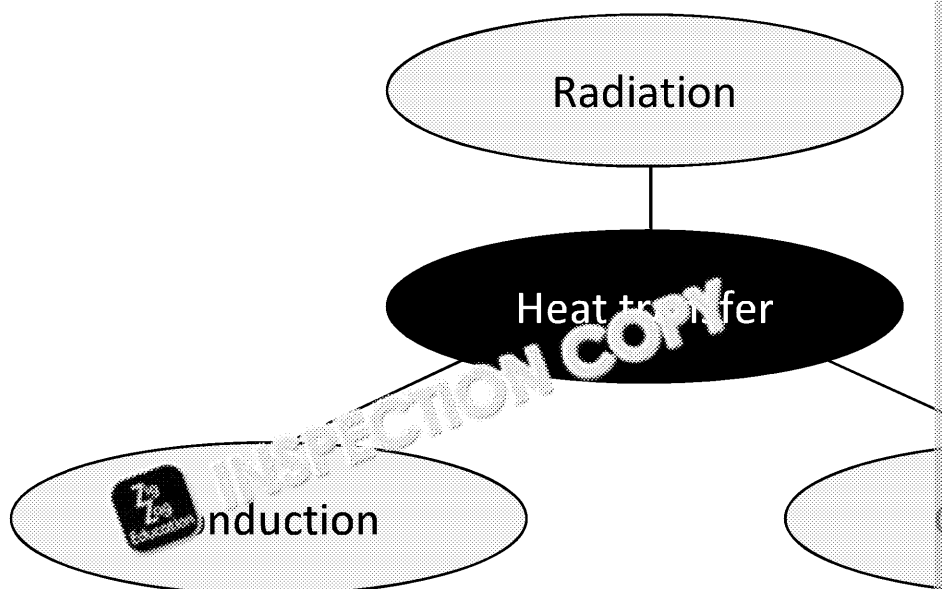


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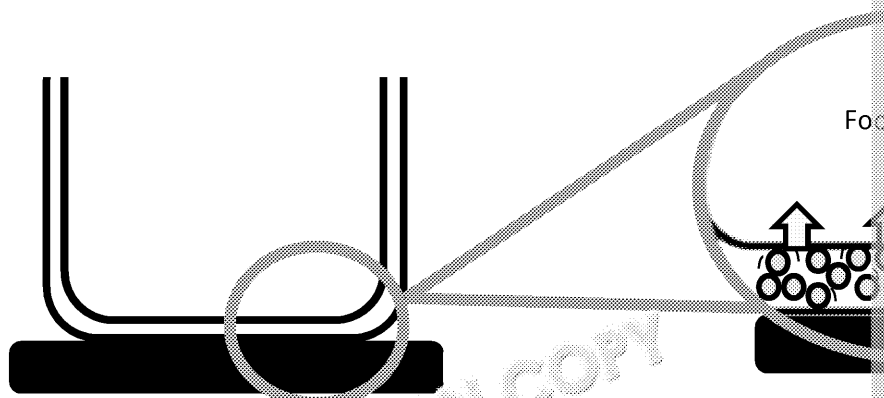
## Different methods of heat transfer

There are three ways in which heat is transferred to food. These are conduction,

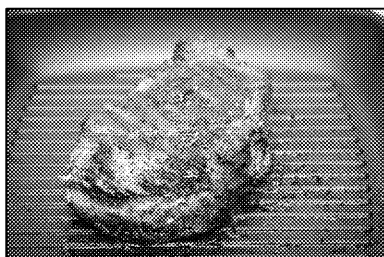


### Conduction

The hotter the substance is, the faster its molecules move. That rule is applied in conduction cooking. Heat from the hob is transferred directly to the pan or pot you're cooking in. The molecules of the metal vibrate and give their energy to surrounding molecules – in this case, molecules of food in the pan. The heat (energy) is transmitted directly, which means that the two objects (the pan and the food) have to touch each other.



Heat causes metal particles in the pan to vibrate and causes food molecules to gain kinetic energy and heats the food



Simmering a stew, frying a steak or cooking a curry in a pan use conduction

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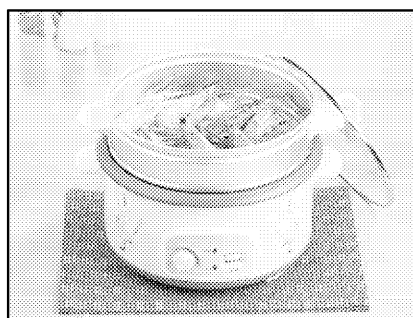
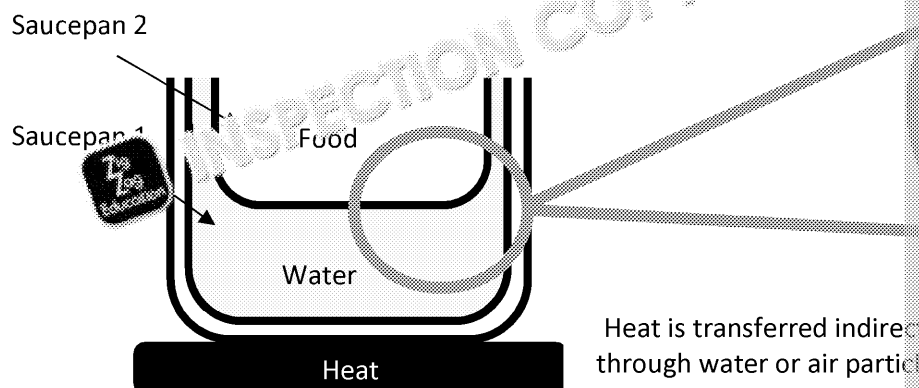
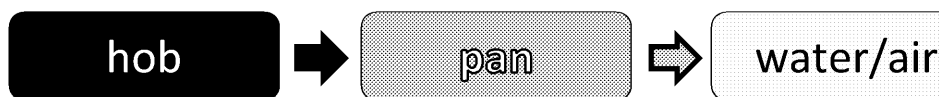
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## Convection

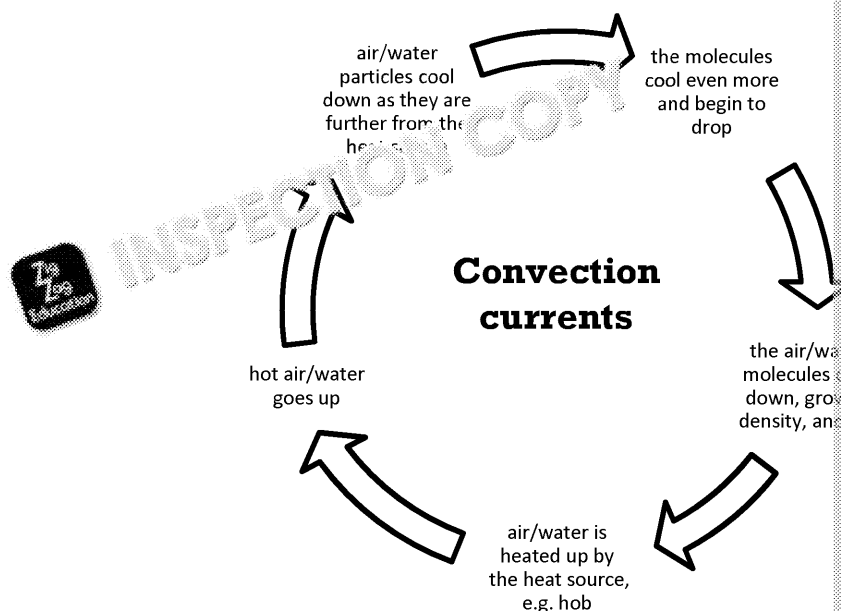
Convection is a way of transferring heat through migration of water or air particles. When heated, water or air particles move up, and when chilled, they move down. These convection currents, are used in cookers, during baking, boiling, poaching and steaming. Heat is transferred indirectly through the use of water or air.



*Steaming is an example of convective heat transfer, through the use of vapour*

### Skills

- 1) Prepare a blended white béchamel).
- 2) Explain how conduction occurs during the process.
- 3) Explain why it is necessary to stir the mixture.



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## Radiation

Radiation is a technique that involves waves of heat being sent to the food – it means the heater and the food do not need to touch each other. Radiation involves two kinds of wave – infrared waves and microwaves.

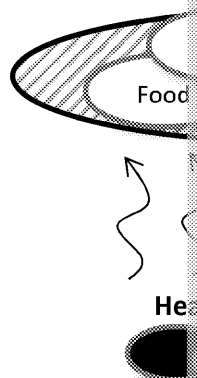
**Infrared** is a kind of electromagnetic radiation, which involves the use of light waves which are invisible to the eye. In cooking, infrared radiation is used in stoves, ovens and grills, where heat goes from the source to the food.



*Grilling/barbecuing is a classic way of using infrared for cooking as the matt black coal is effective in emitting infrared rays*



*Infrared radiation is also used in toasters*

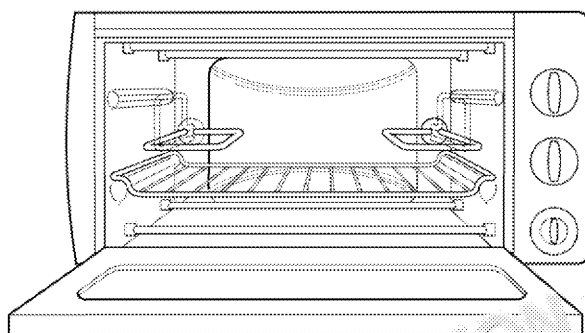


**Apply**

List  
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radiation

**Microwaves** are also a kind of electromagnetic radiation, but they are longer than infrared waves. They are, most obviously, used in microwave ovens. The waves are sent to the food and heat up particles of water, which (as you already know) move faster and faster, transferring the heat to all other surrounding particles. As a result, the food can be warmed up quite effectively, but the use of microwaves is limited only to foods which contain a high proportion of water.

It is also important to remember that microwaves can bounce back from shiny surfaces for example, aluminium foil or plates with shiny, metallic decoration into a microwave.



### How a microwave works

1. Transformer changes high power electricity
2. Magnetron creates microwaves
3. Microwaves are sent to the food by an antenna.
4. Microwaves heat up the food
5. Water molecules vibrate

## Skills

- 1) Prepare a vegetable stew using the recipe at <http://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/recipes/vegetable-stew>
- 2) Discuss what methods of heat transfer are used at each stage of preparation

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### Why heat transfer methods are combined?

Conduction, convection and radiation can often be combined when preparing a dish. Combining different methods allows us to obtain the desired texture, flavour and appearance of the food. We can use various methods of heat transfer when the dish we're preparing consists of various ingredients or filling, as each of them often needs to be cooked differently. The table below shows examples of how different methods are combined.

Cooking method	How it works
Baking, roasting	The heat from the heating element in the oven is transferred to the baking tin, which then transfers it to the food inside. The food warms up through conduction and through convection as the hot air inside the oven circulates.
Boiling, simmering, stewing	The heat from the hob is transferred from the pan to the water, and as the water creates convection currents, it passes the heat through to the food.
Deep-frying, shallow-frying	The heat is transferred from the pan to the oil, which creates convection currents just like water. That's why deep-frying in oil uses both conduction and convection.
Grilling, barbecuing	As the heat radiates from the heating element (e.g. coal), it heats up both the food and the grill/tin it is placed upon. As the grill/tin warms up, it begins to heat up the food through conduction – that's why grilled foods are 'striped'!

An example of how various methods of heat transfer are used when preparing a dish is shown below.

Making spaghetti bolognese requires three steps:

#### 1. Cooking the pasta

To cook the pasta, you need to boil the water first, and then add the pasta. This process uses conduction (to transfer the heat from the saucepan to the water) and convection (to transfer the heat from the water to the pasta).

#### 2. Cooking the sauce

To make the sauce, you need to fry the onion and meat first – this process uses conduction. Then you add tomato sauce and simmer the sauce for a long time to reduce it – during this process, convection is used, as the sauce contains a high percentage of water.

#### 3. Combining the sauce with the pasta, and adding cheese

At the end you can decide to sprinkle your dish with grated cheese. As you cook the cheese, radiation is used – that's because it is heated by radiation from the heating element. The heat source in this case is the hot pasta and sauce mixture, though, not an oven.

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## Heat transfer summary:

Heat transfer method	Conditions	Vector
Conduction	The objects have to touch each other	None
Convection	The objects don't have to touch each other	Air or water
Radiation	The objects do not touch each other but waves of heat are being sent	Air

### Apply

Take a look at a box of frozen pizza and try to work out whether it would be faster to cook in an oven or in a microwave. Cut the pizza in half and cook each half using the different methods. Note how long it takes and suggest why there is a difference in the cooking time.



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## How cooking affects food

Cooking affects food both externally (which makes it look different) and internally (which changes its features such as texture). Cooking also affects nutritional value of foods. That's because certain micronutrients – such as group B vitamins, vitamin C and vitamin A, are very sensitive to temperature and break down during cooking.

### Nutritional value

High temperature, pressure, cooking time, fragmentation, contact with oxygen in the air – all these factors can affect the nutritional value of foods. Most vitamins are damaged by high temperatures; for example, 50% of vitamin B6 and 70% of folate will be damaged during cooking. It is also important to remember that some vitamins are water-soluble. This means that they will dissolve in water during boiling and will be lost if the water is drained.

### Appearance

The look of food changes depending on the ingredients and cooking methods used. In meat, protein fibres will shrink and push out water (or jus), so the meat contracts. Denaturation and coagulation will cause eggs and pastry to set and become solid. Yeast or chemical leavening agents produce carbon dioxide. Rice, pasta and bread absorb water and increase in size.

### Colour

The colour of the food can change due to the Maillard reaction, caramelisation and charring, which cause the food to become golden or brown. Some vegetables, such as red cabbage or beetroot, lose their purple colour and become blue or brown if cooked for too long – the colour may then be restored by adding an acid, such as vinegar. Green vegetables, such as spinach or broccoli, may lose their colour and become dull. To avoid this, they should be cooked for a short time only, and preferably in a lidded pan.

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## Texture

High temperatures cause food ingredients to change their chemical structure. Carbohydrates will become soft (meat, vegetables, fruit, rice or pasta), while others will become crispy and crusty. Starch gelatinisation and water evaporation will cause sauces to thicken. Proteins will cause eggs to set and change from liquid to solid. Dough and cakes will rise due to the action of carbon dioxide, air or steam. Sugar will caramelise and create a brûlée.

## Smell (aroma)

The smell of hot foods is usually more pronounced than that of cold foods. This is because the volatile compounds in hot foods are evaporating and filling the air, which makes them easier to smell, especially when baking a cake or simmering a stew.

## Flavour

The flavour of food may change during cooking due to changes in chemical structure or due to the addition of other flavourings. During cooking, starch will dextrinise, giving a slightly sweet taste, while proteins will lead to a deeper, richer or nutty taste. A complex chemical reaction called the Maillard reaction produces numerous volatile compounds which change the flavour of coffee or cocoa to suit the consumer.

## Palatability

Various chemical reactions which take place during cooking affect all of the food's properties. The quality that a food is pleasurable is called palatability. It can be described by such terms as taste, texture, crispiness, and will usually make food appetising and desirable to the consumer.



*Raw onion is white and crispy*

During cooking, sugar in onion caramelises, which causes the onion to change colour and taste (fried onion is sweet). Some of the sulphur-based compounds present in the onion are broken, so the smell will be sweeter and milder. The onion also becomes softer – that's because some of the fibres in its cell walls are broken down. Cooked onion will have less vitamin C than raw onion.

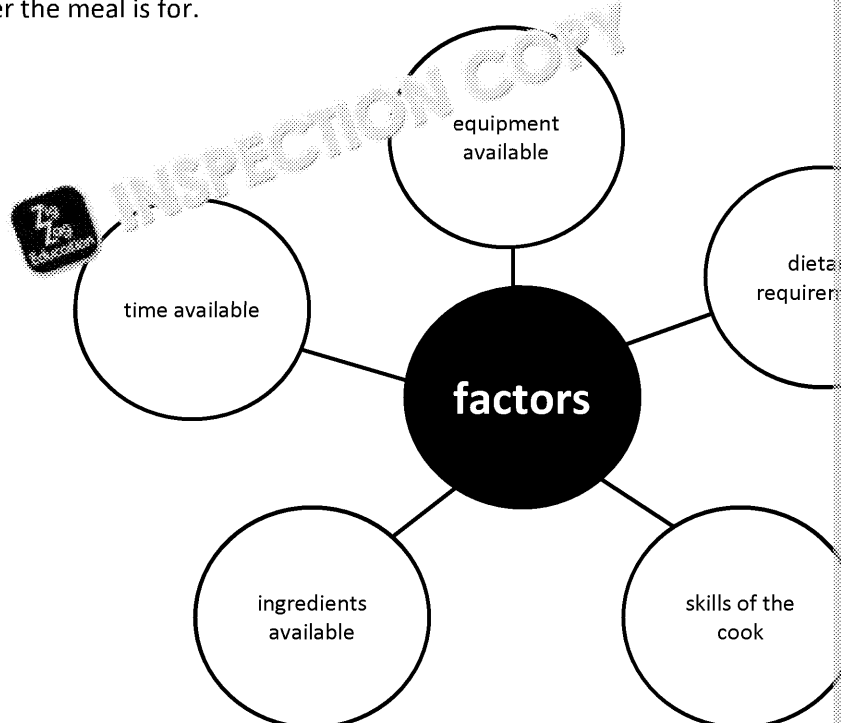
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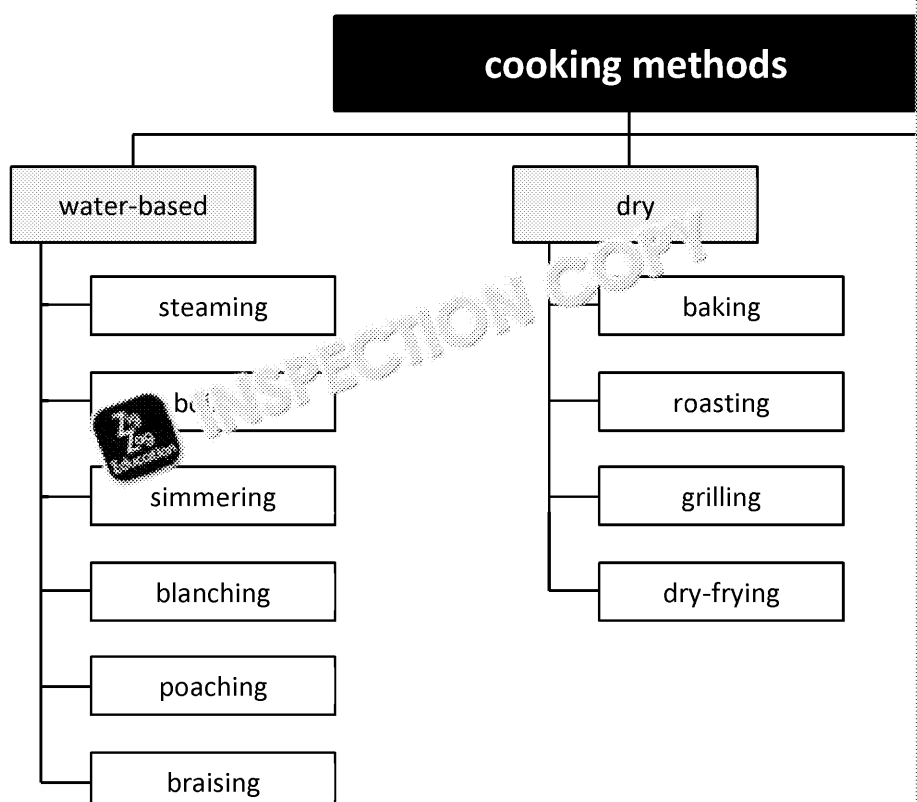
## How different cooking methods affect the food

There is a wide variety of cooking methods, including water-based, fat-based and dry methods, and the choice depends on various factors, such as the skills of the cook or the requirements of the person who doesn't own an oven will not be able to make a lasagne, and a person who doesn't have a poacher will not be able to poach an egg. Likewise, it won't be possible to cook a three-course meal without water (frying isn't a good example as it is not recommended to offer triple-fried chips to someone suffering from cardiovascular disease).

Therefore, the choice of cooking method depends on such factors as the equipment available, the skill of the cook, the time available for cooking, the ingredients available and the requirements of the person or whoever the meal is for.



Different cooking methods are often combined to obtain the desired meal. Cooking methods are divided into water-based, fat-based and dry methods.



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## Water-based cooking methods

Water-based cooking methods use water and other liquids to transfer heat – either directly (as in boiling) or indirectly (as in steaming). Their use is beneficial for a number of reasons:

- addition of fat is not usually required, making the dishes low in calories
- they help to soften proteins, which makes them more digestible
- they are safe for fat-soluble vitamins as these will not dissolve in water or be lost
- they help to soften the starch and make it more digestible
- the cooking time may be easily adjusted – it's enough to probe the cooked food to see whether it's done

**Steaming** is a technique which requires the use of a steamer or simply a strainer. When cooking, water evaporates and cooks the food above. This method is advantageous (the vitamins do not dissolve in water, because they have no contact with it). Food is healthy, nutritious and low in fat.

**Boiling** is one of the most popular cooking methods, in which food is cooked in a large amount of water at a high heat. An example of the use of this method is boiling potatoes, cabbage or eggs. It makes them easier to digest, although it also leads to loss of water-soluble vitamins.

**Simmering** is a technique in which food is cooked with a significant amount of liquid, but on a low heat and for a long time. An example of the use of this method is simmering a stew. Foods cooked this way will become soft and tender, but the long cooking time will decrease their nutritional value.

**Poaching** is a technique in which small amounts of water (or other liquid, such as wine or milk) and a low heat are applied to food to prevent it breaking apart. Poaching is used to cook delicate products such as eggs, poultry or fish, as it seals their surface and prevents them from falling apart. It is a good idea to save the liquid and use it to prepare a sauce to prevent vitamin loss.

**Braising** is a cooking method which, technically, combines frying and simmering. The food is briefly fried to seal the surface, and then simmered for a long time. This way, the food remains juicy and becomes very soft and tender. The long time necessary and the high temperatures applied will, unfortunately, lower the nutritional value of the food.

## Dry methods

Dry methods include those cooking techniques which do not require the use of water or fat. These are baking, roasting, grilling and dry-frying. Since these methods produce high temperatures, they may require the use of a special probe to check the readiness of the cooked food (because the surface is usually too hot to touch).

Baking and roasting are basically techniques that require the use of an oven.

**Baking** is applied to foods that do not have a stable structure, but will obtain it after processing. This includes such foods as muffins, sponge cake or fish pie. Before baking, the tray/tin with butter or fat, and sprinkle it with flour (or another powdery substance) to prevent sticking. Baking helps obtain soft foods with a crispy surface – such as the crust of a pie. Sugar will caramelise at high temperatures and add flavour to the food. Starch will break down into simple sugars, which are more digestible, which may be important for people with digestive tract diseases.

Apply

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**Roasting** is applied to foods that are already solid, such as turkey or parsnips. During roasting, you can sprinkle the surface of the roast with the fat or juice that's leaking out of it to create a crust. This softens and tenderises the food, but the long time required leads to the loss of heat-sensitive vitamins.

**Grilling** is a technique which uses infrared waves to heat up the food. Grilling allows for the removal of fat, which makes it more appropriate for some people, e.g. those on a low-fat diet. However, grill foods, because harmful, carcinogenic substances may be produced as a result of the high temperatures.

**Dry-frying** is frying in a dry pan – without the use of fat. It usually requires the use of a non-stick pan (Teflon, stainless steel or ceramic). During dry-frying, fat will melt and leak out of the food. This is more acceptable for people who cannot consume a lot of fat. The cooking time is longer than for other methods. As the food is cooked, the more vitamins will be lost due to the high temperatures applied.

All dry methods of cooking are recommended for health reasons to people who wish to lose weight or cut down on fats.

### Fat-based cooking methods

Fat-based cooking methods include shallow-frying, deep-frying and stir-frying. Frying usually produces high temperatures (around 200 °C and more), which can destroy some vitamins in foods. Depending on the quality and quantity of the fat used, fried foods can be healthy for different people. For example, frying in general is inappropriate for an obese person with hypertension, but shouldn't be harmful for a healthy individual.

Fat-based cooking methods use different fats, such as vegetable oils, butter, lard or goose fat, and even margarines.

**Shallow-frying** requires only a small amount of fat. The fat in shallow-frying:

- seals the surface and closes juices inside the food (e.g. meats)
- creates a crispy skin/surface
- gives the food the desired taste
- prevents food sticking to the pan

Shallow-frying will damage some of vitamin C and vitamin B2 due to heat, but will add more fat-soluble vitamins to the food.

**Deep-frying** uses large amounts of fat – this method is often used to fry chips or breaded treats such as Scotch eggs. During deep-frying, the whole product is sunk into fat, allowing it to cook evenly. Unfortunately, during deep-frying a lot of fat is absorbed by the food, making it fatty and not suitable for many people. Also, the heat will lower the vitamin content in the food.



These deep-fried...

### Revision tip

Stir-frying, grilling, grilling, dry-frying and poaching are ways of conserving foods' nutritional value.

**Stir-frying** is a variation of shallow frying, in which the food is cooked constantly in the pan. The technique is typical of Chinese cuisine. The dish in which food is stir-fried is called a wok. This method which takes a short time only, so the food retains its nutritional value and colour.

### Things to think about (1.3)

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of all of the cooking methods (dry methods). Discuss how the use of each of these methods could affect the nutritional value of the food and how this can influence the food choices which that individual would make.

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3. Give three reasons why food is cooked.

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4. State two methods of transferring heat to the food when baking a quick bread.

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5. List three processes that happen to macronutrients when baking a lasagna.

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6. Explain how braising affects the nutritional value and palatability of por

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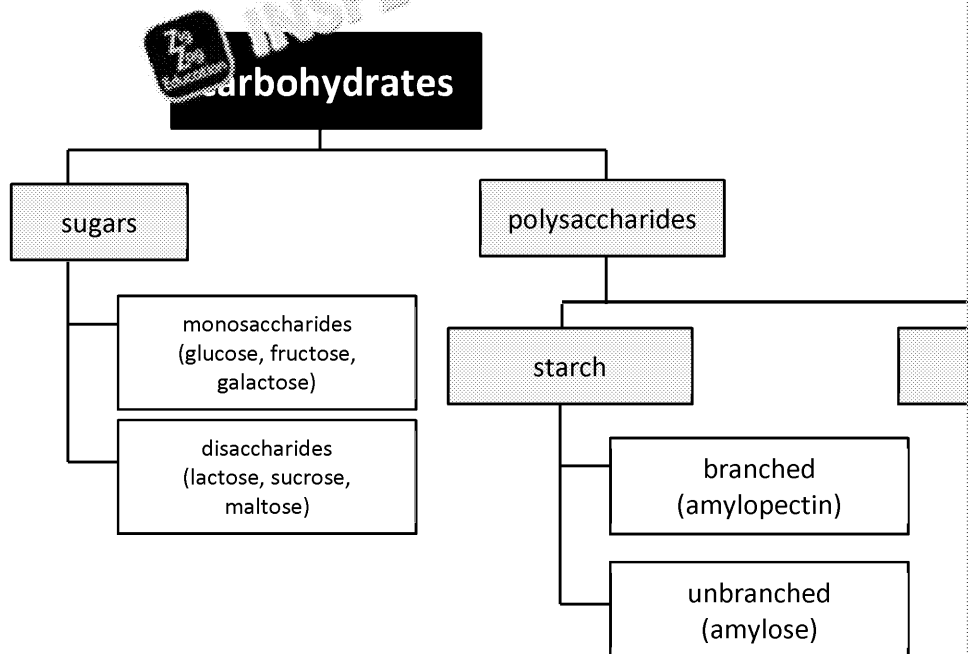
# The working characteristics, and function and properties of cooking ingredients

Cooking is mostly based on the science of chemistry and physics. Knowing the chemical properties of ingredients is very important as it helps to understand why and how an ingredient performs its functions are, and how to adjust the proportions, cooking methods and time, and how to prevent the effect, assessing why a particular effect has not been obtained – and how to prevent this.

## Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates include sugars, starches and dietary fibre. They are present in many vegetables and fruit to pure sugar. Carbohydrates are the main source of energy necessary to build DNA strands and conduct all life processes in every living cell.

Carbohydrates are all structurally different and can be split into the following groups:



**Sugars** include monosaccharides (single molecules) and disaccharides (built of two monosaccharides). They are found in table sugar, honey, syrups, etc. They dissolve easily in water.

**Starches and fibre** are long chains of monosaccharides bound together.

Starch is the main compound of flour. It is built from many monosaccharides bound together into long chains, which can be either branched or unbranched (this is important when dissolving starch – the branched starch should dissolve more easily). Starch doesn't dissolve in cold water, but instead forms suspensions. The suspension is a mixture of starch particles floating in water, and eventually, it settles, leaving a residue at the bottom of the vessel (dish, glass). During cooking, starch can either **gelatinise** or **dextrinise**.

**Dietary fibre** is built of thousands of molecules of sugars bound together into long chains. It occurs in plant cell walls, although it is available in purified form. Fibre is usually indigestible for humans, but has many health benefits. Soluble fibre absorbs water when cooked and creates a jelly-like substance, which turns the mixture into a gel. Insoluble fibre will break down and soften during cooking, which causes plant foods to become soft.

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The table below shows why we use carbohydrates in cooking. Can you think of o

	Function in cooking	Example
Sugar (mono- and disaccharides)	Sweetening	Cakes, creams, beverages
	Bulking agent	Cakes, e.g. sponge cake
	Aeration	Creams, e.g. buttercream
	Improving flavour	Sauces, e.g. tomato sauce
	Preserving food	Jams
	Improving the texture	Cakes, e.g. sponge cake, meringue
	Enhancing fermentation	In baked goods which use yeast, such as bread
Flour (polysaccharides)	Improving the colour	Cakes, bread and meats (thanks to the Maillard reaction)
	Bulking agent	Baked goods, such as cakes or bread
	Improving texture	Goods which are high in gluten, such as bread
	Thickening agent	Sauces, e.g. custard, white sauce
	Improving nutritional value	Goods made with wholemeal flour, e.g. bread

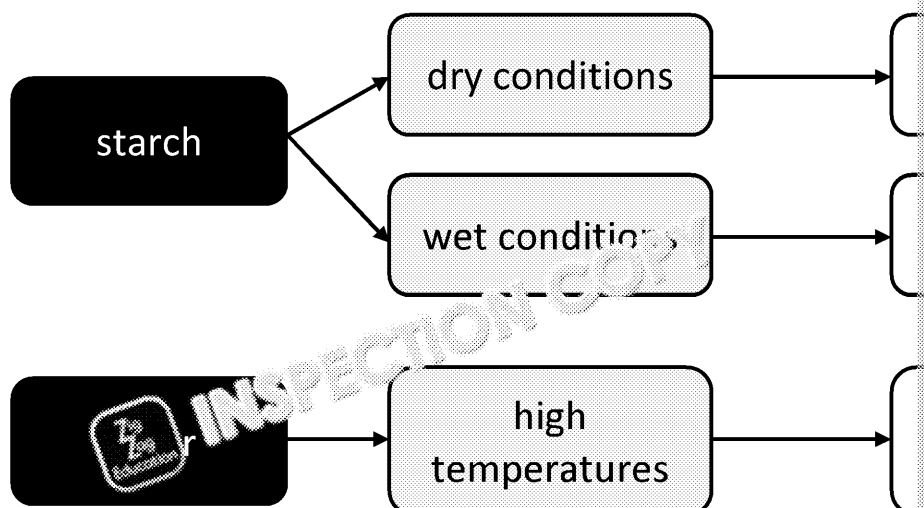
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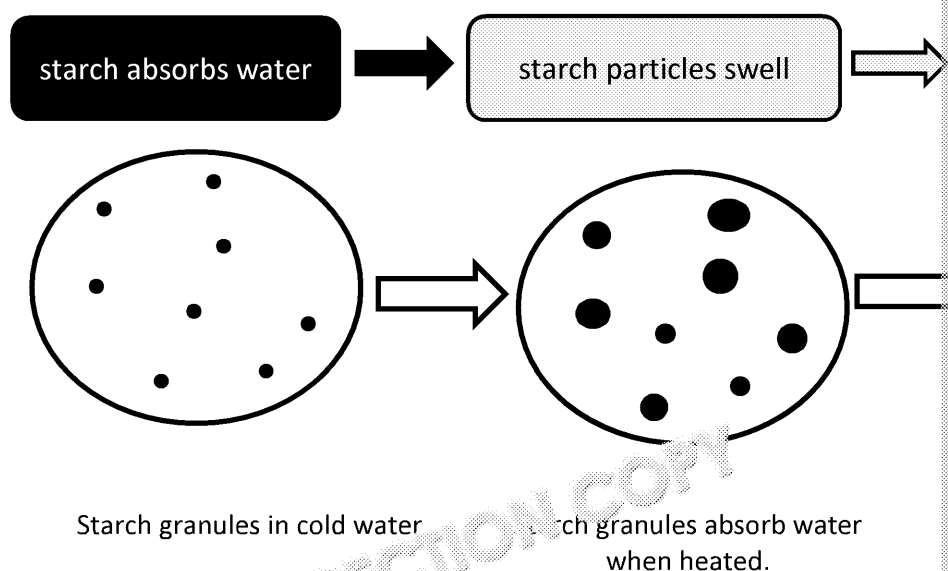
## Preparing and cooking with carbohydrates

Food preparation and cooking involve many varied techniques which differently affect the food and the chemicals it's made of. Different cooking times and temperatures, and the amount of moisture will cause visibly different effects on carbohydrate-rich food products.



### Gelatinisation of starch

Starch particles do not dissolve in water. Instead, they absorb it and swell, turning into a gel. This process happens when the mixture of water and starch is heated and is called gelatinisation. Gelatinisation is used in cooking since it helps thicken sauces and other mixtures, such as puddings. The mixture must be stirred constantly to prevent the formation of lumps. In cold water, starch granules will settle to the bottom of the vessel.



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### Skills

- 1) Prepare three samples of béchamel sauce: use plain flour for sample 1, and again plain flour for sample 3 but do not stir the mixture. What to
- 2) Explain how convection and conduction are applied during sauce-making.
- 3) Explain the chemical changes that cause the sauce to thicken.



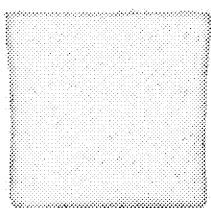
## Dextrinisation of starch

Shorter chains of polysaccharides are called dextrin. When polysaccharides, such as starch, are heated under dry conditions, their long chains break down into shorter ones – this is called dextrinisation. This process occurs while baking bread (and other starchy foods) and is responsible for the sweetish taste and the crispiness of the crust.

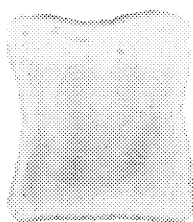
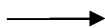


### Apply

Place a piece of bread in your mouth and chew for 60 seconds. Notice the changes from savoury to sweet. This is because the long chains of polysaccharides are broken down by the enzymes in your mouth into sweet short chains called dextrins. Dextrinisation of starch molecules of sugar occurs when bread is being baked by enzymes, but heat stops the enzymes.



Fresh bread has long chains of polysaccharides.



Lightly toasted bread will have some of the polysaccharides broken down into dextrins, so its colour and flavour will change.

### Apply

Toast bread on different settings in a toaster (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) or for different lengths of time in an oven (e.g. 2, 5, 10, 15 and 20 minutes). Compare the colour of the bread slices. Note how dextrinisation changes both the appearance and the taste of the bread.

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## Caramelisation of sugars

Sugars include molecules of monosaccharides and disaccharides. At high temperatures, sugar crystals break and melt into syrup and change colour from light yellow through golden to brown. This is because oxygen and hydrogen are being evaporated and only black molecules of carbon are being left. Depending on the temperature and cooking time, all foods containing sugars will caramelise.

Caramelisation is used in cooking to either change the flavour or affect the colour of the food to make it more appealing. This process is used when making fudge or burning the surface of crème brûlée to create the golden, crunchy top. Caramel is also used in manufacturing cola-like beverages and is responsible for their dark brown colour.

Caramel  
sweetener

## Skills

- 1)  Set up to prepare roasted carrots and onions.
  - Group A: roast for 30 minutes at 200 °C
  - Group B: roast for 30 minutes at 160 °C
  - Group C: roast for 60 minutes at 160 °C
  - Group D: roast for 60 minutes at 100 °C
- 2) Make notes on how cooking time and temperature affect the colour and flavour.

## Did you know?

The Maillard reaction takes place when proteins and carbohydrates are cooked by dry methods. Amino acids from proteins and sugar from carbohydrates react with each other, which results in creation of so-called Amadori compounds. These agents change the smell, flavour and colour of the food (it becomes brown). The Maillard reaction is used to obtain the desired smell and flavour of bread and pastry, beer and coffee beans.



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## Check your understanding: Carbo

1. Dextrinisation takes place when...
  - a. simmering a tomato sauce ☐
  - b. toasting bread ☐
  - c. cooling jelly ☐
  - d. boiling pasta ☐
2. The process of absorbing water and thickening mixtures with the use of...
  - a. dextrinisation ☐
  - b. caramelisation ☐
  - c. gelatinisation ☐
  - d. gelation ☐
3. Caramelisation takes place at temperatures above...
  - a. 60 °C ☐
  - b. 100 °C ☐
  - c. 120 °C ☐
  - d. 160 °C ☐
4. Give three functions of sugar in cooking.



2 .....

3 .....

5. Explain how starch affects viscosity (stickiness) of sauces and soups.

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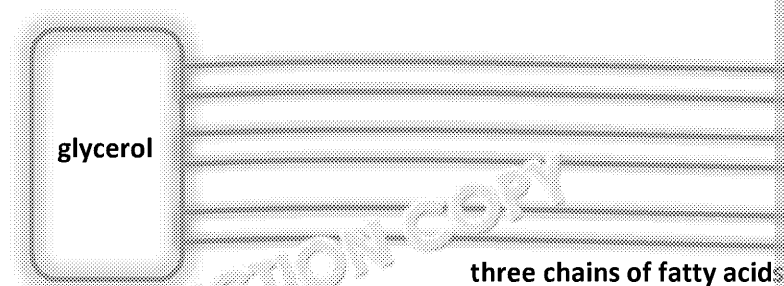
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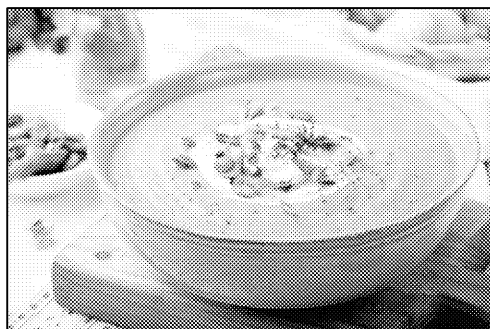
## Fats and oils

Fats and oils are built of a glycerol 'head' to which three chains of fatty acids are attached. The fatty acids are bound together by either single or double bonds. This determines whether they are solid at room temperature – generally, saturated fats (which have only single bonds) are solid and unsaturated fats (in which double bonds are present) are liquid and are, therefore, called oils. The structure of a fat or oil is important because it determines its consistency, melting temperature

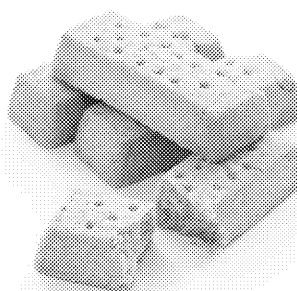


The table below shows why we need fats and oils in cooking.

Fats and oils	Function in cooking	
	Improve the texture	Butter in butter
	Used for shortening	Biscuits, pie crust
	Extend the shelf life	Baked goods, e.g. bread
	Improve the flavour	Cream in soup, butter in sauce
	Help to obtain a crispy surface	In fried foods, e.g. chips
	Add flaky texture	Flaky pastry
	Emulsify mixtures	Sauces, e.g. mayonnaise
	Add colour	Butter in shortbread
	Improve nutritional value	Olive oil in salad
	Carry and improve absorption of fat-soluble vitamins	Dressing in salad



*Fat from cream helps to improve the taste of cream soups and makes for a good garnish*



*Fat helps to obtain the crumbly texture of the shortbread biscuits*

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## Working characteristics of fats and oils

The structure of fats has an important role when choosing cooking ingredients. So preparing shortcrust, while oils will be better for frying or preparing a dressing. Oil helps to help to obtain the desired effect.

### Plasticity

The plasticity of fats is what causes their ability to be reshaped and to melt at different temperatures (they have different melting points). A good example is butter and lard. They are solid while in the fridge, become soft and greasy at room temperature and melt to an oil during cooking.

There are certain types of margarine which are spreadable at low temperatures – you can say that they have good plasticity.

### Shortening

When mixed with starch (such as flour), fats create a layer around starch particles; therefore, starch is prevented from forming long chains. This is called **shortening** and it helps to obtain crumbly, flaky pastries, as in biscuits. It is noticeable that only solid fats shorten the mixture – oils will rather turn it into a lump. For this reason, it is better to use cold butter/lard and cold water, and then let the pastry rest in a fridge to obtain a melt-in-the-mouth pastry.

### Skills

Prepare two shortbread doughs, one using butter and the other using half butter and half oil. Bake and describe the difference in texture and taste.

### Aeration

Similar to foam formation in proteins, aeration is the trapping of air bubbles in the mixture. This leads to the creation of creams, which can be observed when whisking butter with sugar or when whipping cream. Aeration is also used to obtain the delicate texture of ice creams.

### Apply

- 1) Pour three different kinds of cream into a bowl: single cream, whipping cream and heavy cream.
- 2) In groups, whisk each cream, measure the time needed and observe the change in volume.
- 3) Compare how much fat each of the creams contains and how this affects the change in volume.

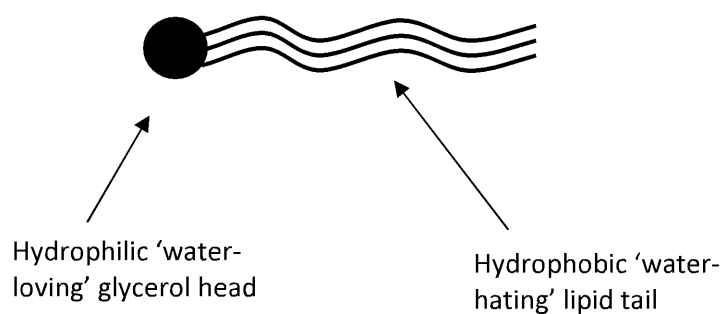
### Emulsification

Emulsion is a mixture of oil and water. Depending on the ingredients used, we can distinguish water-in-oil emulsions and oil-in-water emulsions. An example of an oil-in-water emulsion is milk: usually, fat molecules are spread evenly in the liquid, but when shaken, they will form a layer on the top. An example of a water-in-oil emulsion is butter (notice how it 'sweats' when taken out of the fridge).

Since fat is hydrophobic, the particles of fat and water will repel each other, leading to separation of the emulsion into layers. To prevent this and make the mixture more stable, emulsifiers are used. One of the most popular emulsifiers is lecithin, present in egg yolk. Emulsions are used not only in cooking, but also in the cosmetics industry.

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When put in water, fat molecules will turn their hydrophilic heads towards it, creating a surface film.

Emulsifiers like lecithin act to oil droplets, keeping them dispersed and making the mixture stable.

### Did you know?

Mayonnaise is also an emulsion, made of vegetable oil, egg yolk, vinegar and flour.

- liquid phase – vinegar (sometimes milk is also used)
- oil phase – vegetable oil, such as sunflower oil; various types of mayonnaise use other kinds of oil, such as olive oil, to improve their nutritional value
- emulsifier – egg yolk; it is a natural source of lecithin, which suspends oil in the mixture and prevents layering.

Large factories may also use homogenisers – special machines which pump the mixture and make oil droplets smaller, making them easier to suspend in the mixture.

### Research

Read the label of a mayonnaise jar/bottle and try to define whether it's an oil-in-water or a water-in-oil emulsion. Justify your answer.

### Research

Check what substances are used as emulsifier in food at [zzed.uk/](http://www.zzed.uk/) 8228-fo

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## Check your understanding: Fats

1. Shortening means that...
  - a. fatty acids cannot form ☐
  - b. gluten fibres cannot form ☐
  - c. sugar chains become shorter ☐
  - d. carbohydrate chains become shorter ☐
2. Plasticity means that...
  - a. fat is solid at room temperature ☐
  - b. fat is liquid at room temperature ☐
  - c. fat is easily spreadable at room temperature ☐
  - d. different fats melt at the same temperature ☐
3. Which statement about fats is correct?
  - a. Fats dissolve vitamins. ☐
  - b. Fats with a high water content create emulsions. ☐
  - c. Fats with a low water content create emulsions. ☐
  - d. Fats have the same melting temperature. ☐
4. State two methods or processes used during the production of sponge cakes.
  - 1 .....
  - 2 .....
5. Describe how the chemical structure of fats affects their physical state.  
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6. Explain the need to use emulsifiers in mayonnaise.  
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7. Explain how shortening helps obtain a crisp pastry.  
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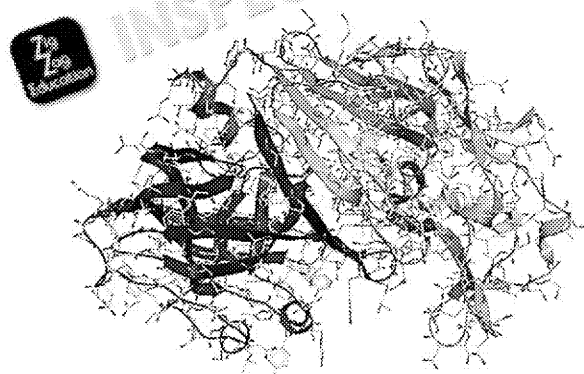
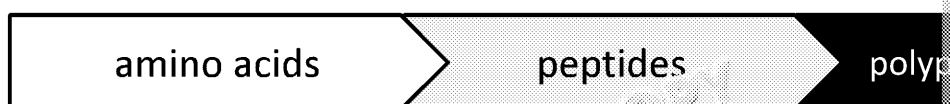


## Proteins

There is a wide variety of food products that are rich in protein. Although their main role is to provide protein in the diet, they also play a crucial role in creating the desired texture, flavour and appearance of a dish. One of the most versatile protein-rich ingredients is egg. Due to its chemical properties, it is used in a wide variety of various dishes, and for different reasons. Other protein-rich staples include milk and cheese. The functions of each of these products in cooking are described in the table below.

	Function	
Egg	Binding agent / improving the texture	Cakes, muffins
	Glazing (adds shine and lengthens shelf life)	Bread rolls
	Coating (helps breadcrumbs to stick to food)	Breaded fish, poultry
	Leavening agent	Cakes, soufflés
	Thickening agent	Sauces, e.g. custard
	Stabiliser/emulsifier	Sauces, e.g. mayonnaise
	Improves the moisture	Cakes, muffins
	Improves nutritional value (by adding protein, vitamins and minerals, omega-3 fatty acids)	Sweet and savoury dishes
Milk	Improves the appearance (used as a garnish)	Garnish in salads
	Binding agent	Muffins, pancakes
Cheese	Improves the texture	Yorkshire puddings
	Improves the flavour	Sauces, e.g. cheese sauce
	Adds colour	Sauces, fillings
Yoghurt and buttermilk	Adds texture	On pizza or in soups
	Improves the texture (used as a marinade)	Meats, fish
	Improves the nutritional value (lowers fat content)	Salads, soups, smoothies
Cream	Thickening agent (adds creamy texture)	In soups and sauces
	Thickening agent	In soups and sauces
	Improves the appearance (often used instead of garnish)	In salads, soups
	Improves the texture	In creams and dressings

Proteins are large biomolecules built of hundreds of amino acids. Amino acids bond together to form chains of peptides, and peptides bond together to form longer chains of polypeptides (polymers).



*In the quaternary structure, multiple chains of proteins join to form a functional unit, such as an enzyme.*

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Proteins can adopt different structures, usually to save room and fit more of them into a cell. Amino acids may react with each other, creating new chemical bonds.

1. **Primary structure** – when the protein has the form of a simple chain of amino acids bonded together.
2. **Secondary structure** – when the chain starts to form a spiral (helix) or harmonica (sheet); here, the amino acids come closer together, creating hydrogen bonds between them, which gives them one of these shapes (shown on the right).
3. **Tertiary structure** – when the spiral/harmonica turns more tightly to form a ball or other 3D shape (usually to save room). In the tertiary structure the protein is made of one chain of amino acids, which now form a range of different types of chemical bond (peptide bonds, hydrogen bonds and disulphide bridges).
4. **Quaternary structure** – when different chains of proteins form a 'lump' made of different tertiary-structured proteins, to form a fully functioning biological unit such as an enzyme or hormone.

Now you have a better understanding of how proteins are structured, we can begin to look at how different methods of preparation and cooking can change the structure and chemical properties of a protein.

## The use of proteins in cooking

### Protein denaturation

Denaturation is a process in which chemical bonds in the proteins are broken, leading to a change in their structure. This happens in certain conditions:

1. when heat is applied to a protein, e.g. when baking a soufflé or boiling an egg
2. when acid is applied to a protein, e.g. when lemon juice is added to meringue
3. due to mechanical actions, such as whisking egg white (see foam formation)

Different proteins denature at different temperatures. For most of the proteins in food, denaturation is around 65 °C or more. This is why eggs set, meat and fish become firm and vegetables become spongy when cooked.

Acid is also capable of damaging bonds in proteins. This is used when adding lemon juice to meringue to prevent the foam from collapsing (e.g. whipped egg white for meringue) or when marinating meat to tenderise it.

### Foam formation

Mechanical actions, such as whisking, also lead to the damage of protein structure and can be partially reversed. You can notice how whipped egg white will turn into liquid again. During whisking, protein molecules stretch and tiny air bubbles are forced into the liquid and trapped in it, forming a foam. Foams are used to lighten the texture of food, to make it more palatable and to allow it to rise during cooking. Foam formation is used to prepare sponge cakes, soufflés, ice creams, marshmallows and many other foods.

Notice that if beaten for too long, the proteins will shrink and push out water – this is called syneresis.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare a list of proteins and their functions.
- 2) Obtain a list of proteins and their functions.
- 3) Add a text box to the list.
- 4) Write down the name of the protein.

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## Skills

- 1) Marinate a piece of pork and a piece of fish. Compare the structure of the marinated pieces.
- 2) Roast all of the products. Compare the structure. What do you notice?
- 3) Learn at [zzed.uk/8228-easy-marinades](http://zzed.uk/8228-easy-marinades) how to make various marinades.

## Coagulation

Coagulation is a process in which large particles of protein aggregate and form lumps. This is because they are being deprived of their electric charge. You can observe it by adding salt to egg white. This process is usually reversible. Coagulation is used, for example, in salted fish – to reverse it, you need to soak the fish in water in order to wash out the salt. Coagulation often takes place simultaneously with denaturation, so it might be difficult to differentiate them; for example, when frying eggs, the proteins both denature and coagulate, leading to the final change in texture. Coagulation may also be caused by enzymes, such as rennin used in cheese production, and heat; for example, when boiling eggs.



In groups  
in restaurants

## Apply

- 1) Prepare five eggs and boil them for different lengths of time: 3, 5, 7, 10 and 15 minutes. Mark the shells with a pen to know when to remove each egg from the water.
- 2) Peel the eggs and cut them in half and note down the differences you observe.



Gluten gives the dough elasticity and traps air bubbles, allowing it to rise.

### Gluten formation

Gluten is the protein found in certain grains (such as wheat, rye and barley). Gluten is formed from two kinds of protein: glutenin and gliadin. When mixed with water, they join together and form a net-like structure. Gluten fibres are elastic and can be easily stretched, which gives the dough a sponge-like structure. This feature is called **elasticity**. This is why wheat-based bread is soft and elastic, and gluten-free bread is rather hard and brittle.

During bread making, yeast produces carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ). The gluten net is elastic because it traps the carbon dioxide bubbles and allows the dough to rise.

### Did you know?

Oats are not gluten-free. Unfortunately, the processing of oats uses the same machinery as the processing of wheat, so oats very often contain gluten. Only certified gluten-free oats are safe to eat. Only certified gluten-free products are safe to eat. Only certified gluten-free amounts of gluten are safe to eat. Only certified gluten-free problem of gluten is related to

## Skills

- 1) In groups, prepare three kinds of pasta dough using different flours, such as wholemeal flour, plain flour and cornstarch. You can use the recipe at [zzed.uk/8228-easy-marinades](http://zzed.uk/8228-easy-marinades).
- 2) Write down your observations.

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## Check your understanding: Protein

- Which process occurs when kneading a bread dough?  
a. foam formation ☐ b. denaturation  
c. coagulation ☐ d. gluten formation
- Denaturation CANNOT be caused by...  
a. adding lemon juice ☐ b. adding kitchen salt  
c. adding balsamic vinegar ☐ d. adding spirit vinegar
- A marinade tenderises meat because...  
a. it contains salt ☐ b. it contains oil  
c. it contains acid ☐ d. it contains pepper
- Coagulation takes place when...  
a. making a custard ☐ b. baking a quiche  
c. toasting bread ☐ d. cooking pasta
- State three functions of eggs in cooking. (3 marks)

Function 1 .....

Function 2 .....

Function 3 .....

- Explain how the use of high-gluten flour helps produce a quality dough.

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- Explain how protein coagulation and denaturation allow one to produce...

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## Fruit and vegetables

Various cooking and preparation methods affect the nutritional value of fruit and vegetables, an important source of fibre, vitamins and minerals. Special care should be taken to avoid the damaging influence of external factors, such as oxygen or light. To prevent the loss of nutrients in fruit and vegetables – and maintain their appearance, texture and taste as much as possible – special care is taken when preparing and cooking, such as:

- not exposing them to air or light unnecessarily to prevent such processes as oxidation
- consuming the liquid in which they were cooked
- microwaving, steaming, roasting or grilling vegetables rather than boiling them
- shortening the cooking time whenever possible
- scrubbing instead of peeling

### Enzymic browning

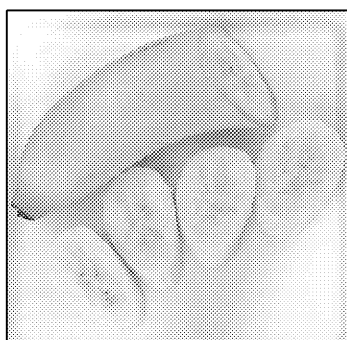
When peeling or cutting vegetables, you destroy the structure of plant cell walls, and enzymes spill out. The enzyme in the cells' juices, called polyphenol oxidase, reacts with oxygen in the air and substances in the plant tissues, causing them to brown. This is damaging to the plant's appearance. On the other hand, it helps obtain the desired flavour of tea, coffee or chocolate. The process affects a number of fruit and vegetables, such as:

- avocados, bananas, peaches, pears, apples, mangoes, apricots, plums, grapes
- aubergines, mushrooms, potatoes, lettuce

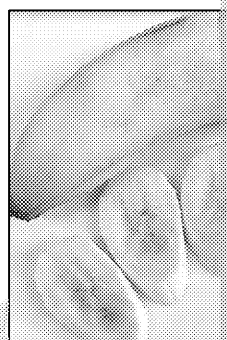
Enzymic browning can be slowed down or stopped by either:

- lowering the temperature, e.g. putting the cut vegetables into the fridge
- inactivating enzymes by blanching
- adding acid, such as lemon juice or vinegar to foods
- removing oxygen – this is applied in salad factories, where salads are packed in vacuum-sealed bags

Enzymic browning will accelerate in the presence of iron or copper – for this reason, avoid using metal plastic containers to store the food.



*Freshly cut banana*

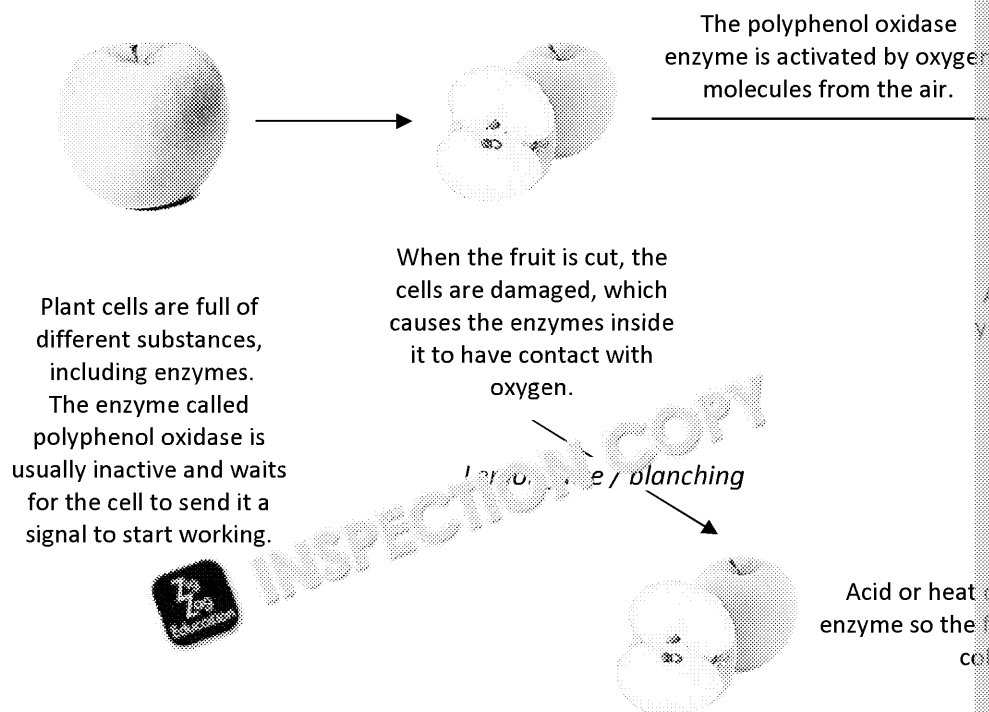


*The same banana after a few minutes will start to brown*

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## Research

Explore in more detail why enzymic browning takes place at [zzed.uk/ 8228](https://zzed.uk/8228)

## Oxidation

Oxygen is necessary to live – it is produced by plants from carbon dioxide and used by animals for breathing. However, oxygen has a destructive effect on most foods, causing substances in them to oxidise. During oxidation, food particles lose electrons, which are caught (or, more often, stolen) by oxygen molecules. This leads to food spoilage and loss of nutritional value, and to development of an unpleasant flavour and smell.

Natural antioxidants are present in foods (such as vitamins A, C and E), but it is best not to expose the food to air if possible. Oxidation may be stopped or slowed down by:

- protecting food from oxygen, e.g. by covering it or packing it in oxygen-free conditions
- use of antioxidants, either natural or artificial, such as lemon juice, lime juice, or vinegar
- use of barrier substances such as salad dressing which covers the surface

## Apply

- Take three apples of different kinds, e.g. Golden Delicious, Gala and Jonagold
- Cut or grate them and leave for 30 minutes.
- After that time you should observe different stages of oxidation – this is due to different amounts of vitamins protecting them from the process.
- Repeat the experiment, but add lemon juice to each sample. What do you observe?

## Research

Explore the variety of English apples and pears at [zzed.uk/8228-apple-varieties](https://zzed.uk/8228-apple-varieties) and assess which apple varieties are less prone to enzymic browning.

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## Check your understanding: Fruit and Vegetables

1. Oxidation is undesirable because...
  - a. it increases the amount of vitamins to dangerous levels ☐
  - b. it leads to vitamin loss ☐
  - c. it prevents food spoilage ☐
2. Antioxidants include...
 

a. vitamins A, C and K <input type="checkbox"/>	b. vitamins A, C and E <input type="checkbox"/>
c. vitamins C, E and K <input type="checkbox"/>	d. vitamins A, E and K <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Enzymic browning affects mostly...
 

a. dairy products <input type="checkbox"/>	b. nuts <input type="checkbox"/>
c. meat <input type="checkbox"/>	d. fruit and vegetables <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Oxidation can lead to...
  - a. development of a bad smell and flavour ☐
  - b. loss of nutritional value ☐
  - c. an unappetising appearance of the food ☐
  - d. all of the above ☐
5. Enzymic browning will happen more quickly in...
  - a. fruit which are high in vitamin C ☐
  - b. grated potatoes kept in a metal bowl at room temperature ☐
  - c. vegetables which are cooked whole ☐
  - d. fruit kept in a covered bowl in a fridge ☐
6. Explain the difference between enzymic browning and oxidation in fruit.
 

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.....
7. List three methods of preventing enzymic browning, and explain why they work.
 

Method:..... Why it works: ..... .....	
Method:..... Why it works: ..... .....	
Method:..... Why it works: ..... .....	

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## Raising agents

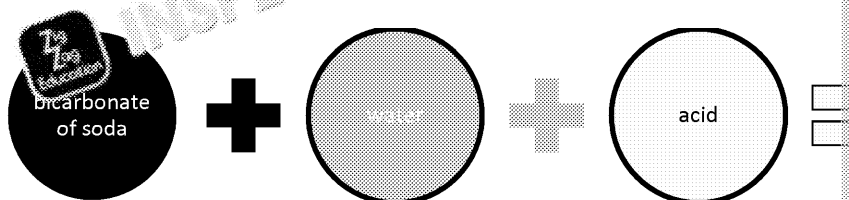
Raising agents are used in cooking to lighten the texture of certain foods and make them more appealing to consumers. They introduce gas to a mixture, which is then trapped in it, helping it to rise.

### Chemical raising agents

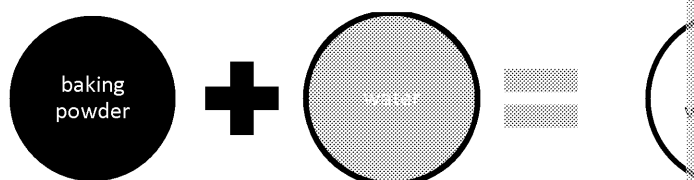
Chemical raising agents include bicarbonate of soda and baking powder.

**Bicarbonate of soda ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ )** is a white powder added to baked goods for leavening. It is used to help the goods rise properly and avoid a soapy aftertaste.

In the presence of water, acid and heat, it turns into carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) – a gas that helps the mixture rise. The reaction also produces small amounts of water (vapour) and salt, which are also trapped in the mixture. During baking, the carbon dioxide turns into bubbles. As these expand and rise, the mixture becomes lighter. Bicarbonate of soda is used in heavy cakes and cakes which contain an acidic ingredient like lemon juice.



**Baking powder** is a white powder which contains bicarbonate of soda and a weak acid like cream of tartar or sodium phosphate. In contact with water, it will go through many chemical reactions. The reaction will produce carbon dioxide. During baking, the gas will expand and cause the mixture to rise. Baking powder is used in many recipes, such as sponge cake or pancakes.



**Self-raising flours** already contain raising agents (usually baking powder) in correct proportions. They are a good choice if you don't know how much to use.

Using too much of a chemical raising agent can cause a soap-like, bitter flavour, so it's important to use only as much as indicated in the recipe.

**Self-Raising Flour**

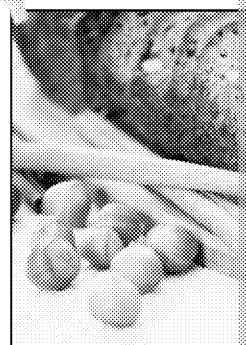
**Ingredients:** Fortified Wheat Flour (Wheat Flour, Calcium Carbonate, Iron, Niacin, Thiamin), Raising Agents: Sodium Bicarbonates, Calcium Phosphates.

**Allergy Advice:** For allergens, including gluten, see ingredients in bold. Contains wheat and soya.

**Nutrition Information**

Typical values	per 100g
Energy	1525kJ/360kcal
Fat	1.2g
of which saturates	0.2g
Carbohydrate	75g
of which sugars	1.3g
Fibre	3.1g
Protein	9.6g
Salt	1.1g

*Self-raising flour already contains raising agents. Note that it's also fortified with calcium, iron, niacin and thiamine.*



*Bicarbonate of soda is used in gingerbread, carrot cake and their soft texture.*

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## Mechanical ways of raising (air as a raising agent)

Mechanical ways of raising include mechanical actions that help incorporate air into the mixture. There are many mechanical methods to be aware of:

Method	How and when it works
<b>Whisking</b>	Whisking helps introduce a lot of air into the mixture by beating a liquid and creating a foam. A metal or plastic whisk is used to beat egg whites into a foam to produce, for example, meringue.
<b>Beating</b>	Beating with a wooden spoon helps produce batters that are thick and heavy for a whisk. Batters are used to prepare pancakes or tempura for prawns.
<b>Sieving</b>	Sieving flour traps air bubbles between flour granules, which helps produce a light sponge cake.
<b>Creaming</b>	Creaming traps air bubbles in a mixture of fat and sugar. When there are air bubbles in the mixture, the lighter colour it will have is a sign of creaming. Creaming is used in making ice creams or whipping cream.
<b>Folding</b>	Folding traps air between layers of food, e.g. in French toast.
<b>Rubbing in and kneading</b>	Kneading introduces air into the dough. It is used in making bread, doughnuts and scones.

## Steam as a leavening agent

Steam can be used as a leavening agent when a mixture has a high proportion of liquid and is cooked at a high temperature. When the food is exposed to heat, the water reaches its boiling point and turns into steam. During cooking, the steam rises and expands, pushing the food mixture upwards. Steam is used to produce puff pastry (giving it a layered texture), choux pastry (causing it to become hollow) and Yorkshire puddings (causing them to rise).

### Skills

- 1) Prepare a basic soufflé. You can use a recipe from [zzed.uk/8228-cheese-souffles](http://zzed.uk/8228-cheese-souffles)
- 2) What raising methods will you use and why?



S6

## Biological raising agents (yeast)

In the presence of food, water and warmth, yeast breaks down sugars and produces carbon dioxide and alcohol, which leads to rapid growth of the mixture. This process is used in the food industry.

Yeasts are used in the production of wine, beer and kefir (fermented milk beverage), as well as in baking.

### Skills

- 1) Prepare a batter for a savoury roulade using eggs, flour, milk, butter and yeast.
- 2) What raising method will you use? Why?

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During the fermentation of yeast, sugar is transformed into carbon dioxide and alcohol, which dictates the final flavour of the given product. During baking, the carbon dioxide produced turns into air bubbles. As these expand, the mixture rises.

Yeasts are available in many forms:

- **Fresh** – a soft beige block, with a faint smell of mushrooms; it is necessary to grow it first in a bowl with warm water and sugar before adding to a batch of dough
- **Dried** – small granules that have to be restored before use (dissolved in water or other warm liquid)
- **Easy-blend** – powder added directly to the batter

Yeast is usually used in production of new sugar-rich and low-fat dough such as bread, bread rolls, pizza or doughnuts.



*Fresh yeast.*

## Skills

- 1) Prepare one bread dough using bicarbonate of soda, and one using yeast. Compare the time needed to prepare and bake the doughs.
- 2) Compare the taste of the breads.
- 3) Assess the nutritional value of each bread.

**S7, S8**



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## Check your understanding: Raising agents

1. Which of the following statements is TRUE about mechanical raising agents?
- a. They incorporate air into the food. ☐
  - b. They incorporate carbon dioxide into the food. ☐
  - c. They produce alcohol. ☐
  - d. They produce carbon dioxide. ☐

2. Sieving is a mechanical raising agent because...
- a. it traps air between fat particles ☐
  - b. it traps carbon dioxide between fat particles ☐
  - c. it traps air between starch particles ☐
  - d. it traps carbon dioxide between starch particles ☐

3. Yeast is NOT used to produce...



- a. beer ☐
- b. wine ☐
- c. cider ☐
- d. buttermilk ☐

4. What gas is produced by the use of baking powder?

- a. carbon monoxide ☐
- b. nitrogen ☐
- c. hydrogen ☐
- d. carbon dioxide ☐

5. Give two reasons why yeast is used in production of food. For each function, give an example of a food in which this function is used.

Function 1 .....

Example.....

Function 2 .....

Example.....

6. Give three examples of mechanical raising agents, and describe how they work.

	Mechanical raising agent / method	How it works
1		
2		
3		



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## Bonus chapter: the most common faults in cooking and how to prevent them

There are many factors in cooking which can affect the end result which is your dish. Understanding why common cooking mistakes happen is key to preventing failure in the future. The most common factors are:

- lack of skills in the cook – but don't worry, you will learn everything you need to know
- lack of care when measuring ingredients
- improper time and temperature of cooking
- improper preparation technique, including overdoing and underdoing a dish
- improper choice of ingredients

### Common cake mistakes

The most common ingredients used in cake making include flour, eggs, sugar and fat, sometimes with the addition of a raising agent or other ingredients. The table below describes the most common problems encountered during cake making and explains how to prevent them in the future or how to remedy the situation!

What happened	Why it happened	How to remedy it or prevent it
<i>The cake is tough and dry</i>	Too much flour (or other powder, e.g. cocoa) was used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure the flour carefully next time</li> <li>• If it is a chocolate cake, substitute the amount of cocoa</li> <li>• Cut the cake in half horizontally and soak with alcohol or squash – it will make a moist dessert, such as tiramisu</li> </ul>
<i>The cake has sunk in the middle</i>	The cake is under-baked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust the cooking time according to the recipe made and the size of baking tin you are using</li> <li>• Check the readiness of the cake by sticking a skewer in it, the cake needs more time if it comes out sticky</li> <li>• If the top is already browned but the cake is under-baked, cover the surface with aluminium foil</li> </ul>
	You used too much sugar and/or baking powder, and the gluten softened too much – so it wasn't able to support the cake!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure the ingredients properly next time</li> <li>• Cut the cake into pieces and use it as a crumble or similar to bread and butter pudding</li> </ul>
	You opened the door during cooking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We know it is tempting, but cool the oven, so the cake may sink especially if you cut it out of time shown in the recipe</li> <li>• If you must open the oven, do it at the end of the time and check on the cake by peeking through the window</li> </ul>
<i>The top of the cake has cracked</i>	You poured the batter too high into the tin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is good practice to only fill the tin to the recommended height – exceptions include soufflés which need to be fully filled before baking</li> </ul>
	The temperature was too high and the surface cooked before the cake had risen properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put the cake on the middle shelf next time</li> <li>• Pre-heat the oven to the correct temperature slightly next time</li> <li>• To save the cake, cut off the top and use it as a crumble, or add to custard or fruit dessert</li> </ul>

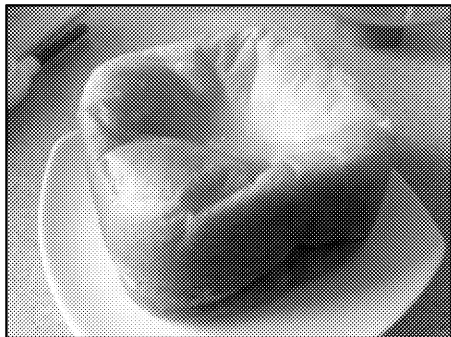
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What happened	Why it happened	How to remedy it or prevent it
<i>The cake has not risen at all</i>	You didn't use the proper raising method, e.g. folded in beaten egg whites too quickly or didn't cream the sponge for long enough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next time, spend more time ensuring the mixture is well aerated, by beating/whisking the egg whites and the flour in, etc.</li> </ul>
	You didn't add enough raising agent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure bicarbonate of soda carefully and add an acidic ingredient in the dough!</li> </ul>
	You folded the flour in too vigorously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next time, fold in the flour gently. Don't knock out the air bubbles.</li> </ul>
<i>Cake has a hard crust</i>	Too much sugar was used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next time, measure the ingredients properly. Don't measure them in cups! Use kitchen scales.</li> </ul>
	You used granulated sugar instead of caster sugar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is always best to use a type of sugar that dissolves easily, such as caster sugar – and in some cases, superfine sugar. The crystals are able to melt during baking.</li> </ul>
	You didn't cream the dough properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The mixture of sugar and butter needs to be well creamed. If you feel tiny crystals in it, continue to cream until they disappear.</li> </ul>
<i>Fruit has sunk</i>	The fruit was not dried properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After washing the fruit, strain it on a paper towel to make sure it is not too wet.</li> <li>You can also coat it with a small amount of flour.</li> </ul>
	The cake mixture was too wet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you think the mixture may be too wet, add a little more flour – experienced cooks know when to do this.</li> </ul>
<i>The cream has curdled</i>	You placed it too close to a heat source, e.g. hot hob or heater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always use cream/cheese straight from the fridge as far away from the hob/oven as possible.</li> <li>Try whisking in a spoonful of water and then give it another good whisk.</li> </ul>
	The mixture was too acidic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although this can be desirable for some cakes, if you don't want your buttercream to curdle, avoid too much acidity.</li> <li>You can try to save the cream by adding a little fresh cream.</li> </ul>
	You used wrong type of cream/cheese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low-fat cream/cheese usually separates more easily than full-fat cream/cheese with a higher fat content.</li> <li>Try whisking a teaspoonful of cream into the mixture.</li> </ul>

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Other baked goods, such as bread and other pastries, also fail to rise properly for a variety of reasons.

### Did you know?

Bread can have different textures depending on the amount of moisture in the dough.

What happened	Why it happened	How to remedy it or prevent it
<i>Bread did not rise</i>	Lack of sugar in the dough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The yeast needs sugar to multiply</li> <li>Mix the yeast with warm water for a few minutes to allow growth before adding to the flour</li> </ul>
	Lack of water in the dough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The yeast needs water to multiply</li> <li>Ensure the correct proportions of ingredients</li> </ul>
	Too low a temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low temperature slows down the yeast</li> <li>Ensure warm water is added to the dough</li> <li>Control the temperature at which the bread is baked</li> </ul>
	Too high a temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High temperature may kill the yeast</li> <li>Ensure the dough is kept away from direct heat sources like ovens or radiators</li> </ul>
	Too much salt added	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salt lowers the activity of yeast</li> <li>Ensure the correct proportions of ingredients</li> <li>Measure the amount of salt added</li> </ul>
	Too little time to rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The yeast needs time to work</li> <li>Ensure you have enough time to allow the dough to rise to the correct volume; this may take a longer time depending on the temperature</li> </ul>
<i>Bread has a tough texture</i>	Too little salt added	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salt helps to strengthen the gluten</li> <li>Ensure the correct proportions of ingredients</li> <li>Measure the amount of salt added</li> </ul>
	The dough was kneaded too little or too much	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kneading helps to develop the gluten</li> <li>Ensure you knead the dough until it is smooth and elastic</li> <li>Ensure you do not knead the dough too much, as this can push out too much carbon dioxide out of it</li> </ul>

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## Pastry problems

Although shortcrust pastry may seem easy, sometimes it does not turn out as expected. It is crucial to pay attention to the temperature of the ingredients, the pastry and your own hands, as they all play a role in creating a nice, crumbly pastry.



What happened	Why it happened	How to remedy it or
The shortcrust pastry is sticky and difficult to handle	You used soft fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time use cold, hard fat</li> </ul>
	It is too hot in the kitchen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try to open the window to let the air circulate</li> </ul>
	You overdid the kneading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try to knead the pastry as far as possible, as the warmth can melt the fat</li> <li>• Wrap the pastry in cling film and rest it for 10 minutes so the fat can harden</li> </ul>
The shortcrust pastry shrank during baking, and the filling spilled out	You didn't let the pastry relax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time, after rolling put the pastry in the fridge for 10 minutes so the gluten in it can relax</li> </ul>
The shortcrust pastry looks raw and wet after cooking	The pastry is underbaked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you noticed this immediately, take it out of the oven, stick it back for another 10 minutes and the temperature slightly</li> </ul>
The shortcrust pastry is too dark/burnt	You overbaked the pastry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time, adjust the cooking time. Remember each oven works differently</li> </ul>
	The temperature was too high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time, adjust the temperature. Remember the temperature may be too high or too low</li> </ul>
	The pastry was too high up in the oven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always try to put the pastry in the middle of the oven</li> </ul>
The choux pastry has collapsed after baking	You didn't bake the choux pastry for long enough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choux buns rise thanks to steam. The steam pushes the inside walls of the choux bun outwards, which causes them to collapse after cooling down</li> <li>• Next time, make sure the choux pastry is baked for long enough to create the steam</li> <li>• Alternatively, right after removing the choux buns from the oven, pierce each one with a skewer to let the steam out</li> </ul>
The Choux pastry didn't rise	You didn't cut up the butter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is important to cut up the butter into small pieces. This will help it melt faster. The less liquid milk, the more liquid evaporates, which means there will be less liquid to create steam</li> <li>• Next time, cut up the butter into small pieces and place the choux buns onto the baking tray. This will help the water to produce extra steam</li> </ul>
	You cooked the pastry for too long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water has evaporated from the choux pastry</li> </ul>
The choux pastry has risen unevenly	You added the flour a little at a time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is important to tip all the flour into the butter mixture at once. Otherwise the flour will soak up more liquid, and so the choux buns will bake unevenly</li> </ul>

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## Sauce slip-ups

There are many different sauce-making techniques. Some sauces are based on stocks, some require a long cooking time to allow the reduction of liquid and concentration of flavour, and others require the use of emulsifiers. Sauce is often the key element in a dish, and it is worth knowing how to make it well.

What happened	Why it happened	How to remedy it or prevent it
<i>The roux sauce has gone lumpy</i>	The sauce was not stirred properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time, stir the flour into the butter first, then slowly add the liquid a little at a time.</li> <li>• Continue whisking all the time until the sauce is smooth.</li> <li>• Strain the sauce into a clean saucepan and discard the lumps! (throw away the lumps!)</li> </ul>
<i>The sauce is burnt at the bottom</i>	You are using too high a heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually, it is best to use a low heat as it is better – it takes longer, but the effect is better.</li> </ul>
<i>The sauce is too pale</i>	You didn't cook the roux long enough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By increasing the cooking time, you can go from white through golden ('blonde') to brown. The longer the butter and flour mixture sit on the heat, the darker it gets. Cook to time until the roux has the desired colour and slowly stir in the liquid, and put back on the heat.</li> </ul>
<i>Mayonnaise is separating</i>	There is not enough moisture, so the oil droplets are not dispersed correctly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whisk in a spoonful of water</li> </ul>
	The oil was added too quickly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the beginning, add the oil drop by drop to ensure it has been fully incorporated into the mixture.</li> <li>• Then, make sure you add the oil in a steady stream.</li> </ul>
	The ingredients were at different temperatures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next time, make sure all the ingredients are at room temperature.</li> <li>• Put a fresh egg yolk into a clean bowl and whisk it with a mayo spoonful by spoonful until the mixture is thick.</li> </ul>

## Other common mistakes

Both new and experienced cooks can make mistakes – due to lack of either skill, knowledge or time. Haste is not your friend when in the kitchen, so it is best to always spend your time reading recipes thoroughly, so that you know what to do step by step, how to schedule your ingredients and utensils to make the cooking easier – and succeed at it! The table below lists some common cooking mistakes which many of us make.

Mistake	Effect
Overcrowding the pan	Instead of frying, your meat and fish begin to steam and you won't obtain that lovely, crunchy crust
Adding gas early	A dish which is slightly burnt and bitter
Flipping the food too often	Fish is likely to overcook and fall apart, and you won't get a crunchy crust
Adding wet greens to a pan full of hot oil	The oil splatters around and may burn you. Instead of frying, and you end up with a soggy dish
Breading the food improperly	The breading falls off. Next time, dip the food in egg first and then in breadcrumbs – this way the breading will stick to the piece of food.

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## Check your understanding: The most common cooking problems and how to prevent them

1. Why should garlic be added to a dish at the end of cooking?
  - a) to make the aroma less intense ☐
  - b) to improve the texture of the sauce ☐
  - c) to improve the appearance of the dish ☐
  - d) to make sure it doesn't burn and spoil the dish ☐
2. Which method can prevent fruit from sinking to the bottom of the cake?
  - a) coating it with breadcrumbs ☐
  - b) washing it thoroughly ☐
  - c) coating it with flour ☐
  - d) cutting it very finely ☐
3. What can cause a sauce to become lumpy?
  - a) overheating the butter ☐
  - b) lack of agitation ☐
  - c) too much added salt ☐
  - d) too much added flour ☐

4. State three issues which can occur when making a cake which are a result of incorrect weighing or measuring of ingredients.

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

5. Explain scientifically what happens when bread does not rise.

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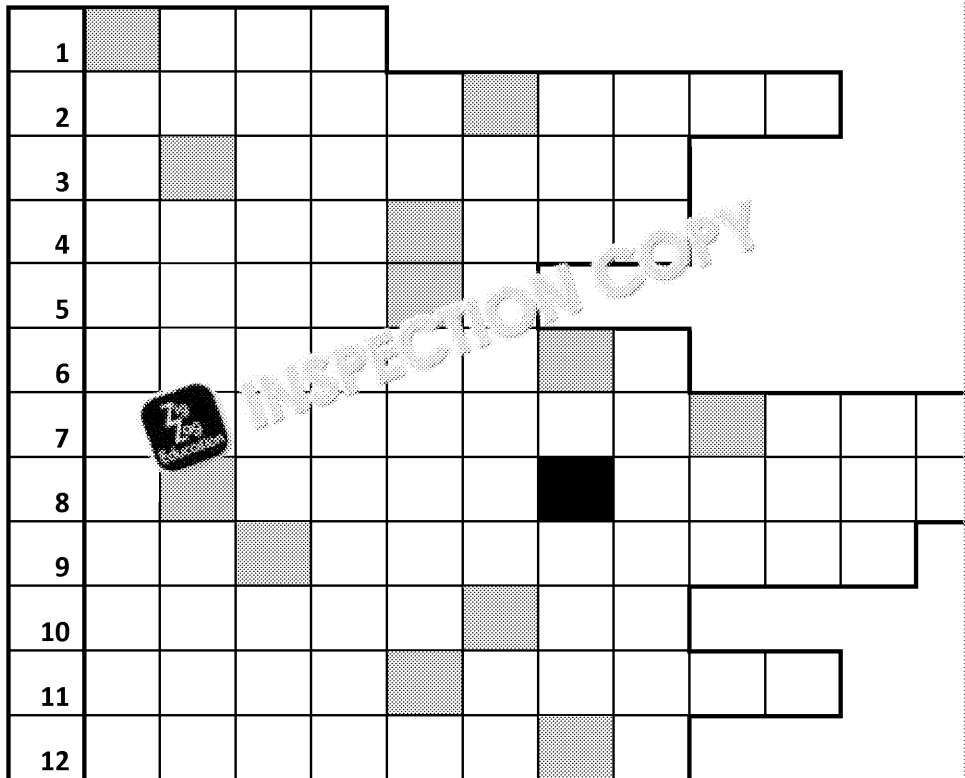
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## Quiz-ine

Fill in the answers to the questions below to reveal a phrase relevant to food science (a black square is a space between words).



1. Mixture in which gas bubbles are suspended in a liquid (4)
2. Function of fat in pastry making (10)
3. Discolouration of fruit and vegetables caused by enzymes (8)
4. One of the water-soluble vitamins which is lost during cooking (8)
5. Complex protein formed when flour is mixed with water (6)
6. Green-coloured toxin which accumulates in badly stored potatoes (8)
7. Term given to the damage to the chemical structure of protein caused by heat (6)
8. Gas produced by yeast, used in bread making (6, 7)
9. Inhibits oxidation in food (11)
10. The action of agitating a sauce to prevent lumps (10)
11. Type of radiation (waves) used in cooking (10)
12. Cooking method which uses convection currents and water vapour (8)

The shaded squares reveal this word:

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## Chapter 2: Sensory properties

### Overview

In this chapter we will look at sensory testing methods and how our taste buds work when tasting food. We will look at the importance of the senses and how they influence our food choices. We will look at sight, taste, touch and smell. We will explore the different sensory testing methods, including preference tests and grading tests, and learn how to set up a taste panel.

### Learning outcomes

After studying this chapter you should be able to:

- ☐ understand and describe the importance of the senses and how they influence food choice
- ☐ describe the different sensory testing methods
- ☐ explain how to set up a taste panel
- ☐ understand that controlled conditions are important
- ☐ use sensory testing methods on a wide range of products

### Key Terms

<b>Appetising</b>	Tasty: smells and looks nice and encourages a person to eat (stimulates the appetite)
<b>Controlled conditions</b>	Conditions, such as lighting, smell and sound, that are controlled in a test to ensure that it is conducted fairly and without bias
<b>Discrimination tests</b>	Tests that are used to detect differences between two or more products
<b>Grading tests</b>	Tests that determine a rank or rating for food products
<b>Hedonic scale</b>	A nine-point scale used within preference tests to measure how much a product is liked or disliked
<b>Objective</b>	Factual, unbiased and not based on opinion
<b>Olfactory/olfaction</b>	Relating to our sense of smell
<b>Palate</b>	This refers to the sensitivity of an individual's taste buds to identify different flavours
<b>Preference test</b>	A test based on an individual's food preference (like or dislike)
<b>Profiling</b>	A test to determine characteristics of a food product
<b>Ranking</b>	A test to determine the order of specific characteristics
<b>Rating</b>	A test to rate a product by providing scores for specific characteristics
<b>Sensory</b>	Relating to the five human senses (sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste)
<b>Subjective</b>	Based on personal opinion or taste
<b>Taste panel</b>	A group of testers comprising people who match specific criteria such as gender or ethnicity, to represent a specific consumer group
<b>Taste receptors</b>	Taste buds on our tongues which help us to detect different flavours
<b>Triangle tests</b>	A test using three samples, one of which is different from the other two
<b>Umami</b>	A savoury taste

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## Sensory evaluation

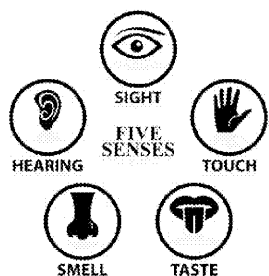
Sensory evaluation of food is an important tool which can be used by food manufacturers etc. It is used to compare and detect differences between products, analyse food responses and preferences of future consumers. Most importantly, it is used to ensure a product can be accepted and successful in the market. In this chapter you will learn how our senses work and how to set up a taste panel to obtain reliable results.

### Organoleptic properties of food and sensory systems

Characteristics of food which can be detected with the senses are called organoleptic properties. We use our senses in a different way depending on whether the food is raw or cooked, fresh or stale. You have already learnt how different preparation and cooking methods can affect the texture, taste and appearance of food. Now it's time to discover how our senses help us to detect these differences.

The human tongue (and the rest of the mouth, although less so) contains **taste receptors** which help us detect bitter, sour, salty, sweet or savoury tastes. Taste buds help us to enjoy our food and influence our food choices through our food preferences (what we like or dislike).

Humans can identify five basic tastes – sweet, sour, bitter, salty and **umami** (a savoury taste, the word meaning pleasantly savoury-tasting) – which enable us to develop likes and dislikes. Our senses are important to us so that we can determine differences in taste, appearance and texture. We can greatly change these features of food – we discussed these changes in detail in the previous chapter.



Humans have five main senses – we can use them to evaluate our food. We can see the appearance of food, we can touch the *texture* or firmness of food, we can taste if food is sour, bitter, sweet, salty or savoury, we can smell the aroma of food. We also use our *hearing* to detect sounds, e.g. when eating a crunchy crisp or apple.

### How the senses help us make food choices

The smell of food may be **appetising** to us and make us want to eat it or be **off-putting** and make us reluctant to taste it. Our sense of smell is called our **olfactory** sense (the sense of smell is **olfaction**) and it is capable of detecting over 10,000 different smells. Our olfactory system influences our food preferences. Food smells (in the form of tiny molecules undetectable to the human eye) reach the scent receptors in the nose; the olfactory system transmits the signals received to the back of the nose and on to the brain. We then react to the smell by finding it appetising or unappetising. We sniff so that more molecules can be received by special sensors at the top of the nose. Our senses are all connected. A blocked nose affects your sense of taste. Various cooking methods can change the aroma of food, by both the evaporation of water and the addition of herbs and spices.

#### Did you know?

Tiny hair-like cilia are attached to scent receptors and act as filters helping to trap pollen and dust in the nose before it reaches the lungs.



Hot foods have a more intense smell than cold foods. In hot food the molecules move faster and can reach your nose more easily. That's why bread dough doesn't really smell until it's baked and the whole house with its aroma!

Our sense of taste determines the types of food we like (e.g. sweet, salty, sour, bitter, umami). Some people prefer sweet, some prefer salty, some prefer sour (e.g. 'sour tooth'), while some people prefer savoury. Some people can tolerate bitter or sour tastes, some people cannot. Some foods contain a bitter compound which also occurs in many other foods, e.g. Brussels sprouts and other brassicas (vegetables from the cabbage family).

Some people can detect the bitter taste in Brussels sprouts while others are not aware of it.

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Texture can also be a deciding factor in whether we find food **appetising** or not. It can affect the texture of food and make it more appealing; for example, frying helps to crisp up food, while boiling makes it soft. Texture can also be lacking when you boil a food product. The texture of some foods can be unappealing – some people can't tolerate rice cakes or mushrooms. Overcooking food affects the texture and makes it mushy. Texture can also be detected by the sense of hearing – by hearing that a food is fresh or freshly made, and that also helps us make a decision about whether we want to eat it.

The appearance of food can influence our food choices. If a food *looks* unappetising, we may not eat it, regardless of texture or aroma. During cooking, the appearance of food can change. For example, spinach becomes wilted and become sponge-like, but spinach leaves will shrink and become limp. Where we eat – regional dishes such as haggis from Scotland or jellied eels from the East of England – can also affect taste due to texture, appearance and taste.



### Things to think about (2.1)

Consider how a blocked nose affects our sense of taste.



#### Apply



List three foods with a bitter taste that some people would find unappetising.

#### Revision

Remember you know how to work when you taste and that taste is on the tongue and whole mouth.

#### Research

Look up three foods in the UK that are associated with a particular region (e.g. Scotland).



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## Sensory testing methods

**Sensory** testing is about evaluating a range of food using taste, texture, appearance and smell. Food preparation and cooking enables us to determine whether it needs to be sweetened or salted (e.g. adding salt to a soup). Not everyone shares the same sense of taste, and some people prefer a salty taste. In the same way, some people prefer spicy food while others prefer milder tastes. To evaluate food products, there are several sensory testing methods, including the following:

Preference Tests	
<b>Paired preference</b>	<b>Preference tests</b> are used within consumer marketing to determine if a group of consumers prefer a certain food product compared to another. A manufacturer to see whether a new product will be successful. Because a large number of tests are required for this method, it is often a costly process. In a paired preference test, a tester is presented with two samples and requested to indicate their preference for one of the two samples.
<b>Hedonic</b>	The <b>hedonic scale</b> is used in order to rate how much a person likes a product on a sliding scale of 'like extremely' to 'dislike extremely'. It is sometimes referred to as a likeability test.
Discrimination Tests	
<b>Triangle</b>	This test involves three samples – two of the same sample and one different. The tester must try to identify the different sample (odd one out).
Grading Tests	
<b>Ranking</b>	This type of test attempts to detect differences in similar products. For example, is product A sweeter than another product? The tester must sort the products by sweetness, starting with the sweetest and ending with the least sweet.
<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rating tests</b> are used to detect characteristics between products. For example, testing whether a reduced sugar product tastes as good as a full sugar product. The tester uses a scale starting at 'dislike' to 'like'.
<b>Profiling</b>	A <b>profiling test</b> is also referred to as a star test and is used to identify the characteristics of a product using, for example, a five-point scale.

### Did you know?

**Subjective** means that the result is based on an individual's opinion or feeling.

**Objective** means being factual, with the result not being based on personal opinion.

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## Preference tests

Preference tests are used to find out which product a panel of testers prefer / like **subjective**.

### Paired preference tests

In the following test, a tester is required to indicate which of the products they prefer based on their personal taste and opinion (subjective).



Sample 1



Sample 2

These products are salted potato crisps. Testers indicate their preference for each sample on the hedonic scale.

Score: 9

Score: 4

### Hedonic scale

The nine-point hedonic scale is used to determine the *likeability* of a product.

#### Nine-point hedonic scale

- 9 Like extremely
- 8 Like very much
- 7 Like moderately
- 6 Like slightly
- 5 Neither like nor dislike
- 4 Dislike slightly
- 3 Dislike moderately
- 2 Dislike very much
- 1 Dislike extremely

In the above test, the tester gave Sample 1 (9 = like extremely) a score of 9 and Sample 2 (4 = dislike slightly) a score of 4.

Preference tests are subjective tests that measure a consumer's preference for a product. A preference test is used to determine which product a panel of testers prefer / like.

## Discrimination tests

Discrimination tests are **objective** tests which are used to detect and identify differences between two or more food products.

**Triangle** tests use three samples – two of which are the same product and one of which is different or the 'odd one out'. Out of the three samples, the tester must decide which sample exhibits an overall difference from the other two samples. In the example on the right, Samples A and C are the same and Sample B is the odd one out. The tester needs to identify whether sample B tastes significantly different from the other two samples.



Sample B ✓

In this test, the tester has detected a difference in taste in Sample B due to the low fat content.

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## Grading tests

Grading tests use **ranking**, **rating** and **profiling** methods. These tests are **objective**.  
ready-salted crisps are being tested and then ranked in order of saltiness.

Sample C



1<sup>st</sup> Saltiest

Sample A



2<sup>nd</sup> Salty

Sample D



Slightly salty

**Ranking** – order of specific characteristics of similar products (which is sweeter, which is saltier, etc.). In this test, Sample C is the saltiest and Sample B the least salty.

**Rating** – how you rate this product in terms of specified characteristics?

In the following test, four packets of crisps are rated using scores for saltiness, crunchiness, and appearance.

Characteristic	Score (out of 4)			
	A	B	C	D
Saltiness	4	1	4	2
Crunchiness	2	1	3	1
Appearance	2	1	3	4

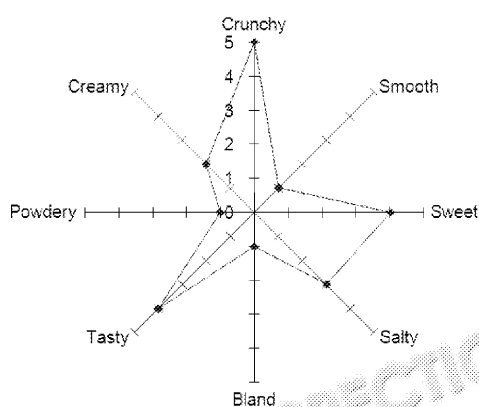
In this test, the scores for each characteristic are used to rank the products.

**Saltiness scores:** 1 = Right amount of salt, 2 = Slightly too salty, 3 = Too much salt

**Crunchiness scores:** 1 = Good crunchy texture, 2 = Only slightly crunchy, 3 = Too crunchy

**Appearance:** 1 = Consistent golden appearance, 2 = Appearance OK but inconsistent

**Profiling** is used to evaluate the characteristics of a product using a five-point scale. A jar of crunchy peanut butter is tested using a five-point scale for the intensity of each characteristic (crunchiness, sweetness, tastiness, etc.).



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## Taste panels

The type of **taste panel** used will depend largely on the target consumer, e.g. age, gender, ethnicity, income bracket and leisure pursuits. For example, a product aimed at retired consumers would use a taste panel comprising testers of this age group, and a product aimed at toddlers would comprise a taste panel of young mothers. Some food products are targeted at consumers who are interested in fitness and health, such as energy bars or protein drinks, and so the taste panel would comprise testers with the same interests. A tester is usually a typical example of the intended consumer of the product (e.g. a vegetarian wouldn't be asked to test a meat product). Usually, people who are asked to test food products have good 'taste buds' with the ability to detect subtle differences in the taste of food. For example, a product aimed at a typical British consumer, such as curry, may not be suitable for an Indian consumer, and the testing panel will reflect this by using typical potential consumers.

### Controlled conditions

**Controlled conditions** ensure that the tests are reliable and credible. Conditions include lighting, temperature and sound controls.

- The room temperature is controlled so that the testers are not too cold or too hot and can focus on the task at hand.
- Sometimes lighting is controlled in order to disguise the appearance of food samples.
- Quiet conditions, usually booths, are used with no smells to distract the testers.
- Glasses of water are provided to sip between tastes (to cleanse the palate).
- In some tests, testers are required to wear blindfolds so as not to be distracted by the appearance of the food.

Test sheets for testers to record their results are supplied.

It is also very important to properly prepare the food samples. When preparing a taste panel, you should:

- use food samples of roughly the same size
- serve food samples on the same type and size of crockery – it is best to use white crockery
- serve food samples at correct temperatures – e.g. ice creams should be served cold, soups should be served warm
- use a neutral-tasting food carrier, if one is needed; unsalted rice cakes are a good example
- code your samples with random numbers rather than simply naming them so that testers do not know which sample is which

### Things to think about (2.1)

Discuss why controlled conditions for taste panels are important.

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**Appropriate descriptive terminology**

When describing a food sample, you can't just say that it is 'good' or 'nice'. This doesn't really say much about the food and simply shows your subjective preference towards it. Rather than using generic terms, you should try to find words which describe the food accurately and in detail.

The table below shows some of the words you can use when describing various aspects of a food product.

<b>Aroma</b>	<i>Aromatic, floral, pungent, perfumed, acrid, musty, fragrant, bland, fishy</i>
<b>Texture</b>	<i>Brittle, rubbery, close, sandy, tacky, sticky, tender, soft, gritty, chewy, moist</i>
<b>Taste</b>	<i>Sweet, bitter, zesty, salty, sour, spicy, weak, savoury, rich, cheesy, mild, milky, creamy, mellow</i>
<b>Appearance</b>	<i>Shiny, dull, fizzy, open, coarse, firm, flaky, lumpy, mushy, runny, burnt, blackened, golden</i>

**Skills**

1. Prepare a basil-flavoured oil to be used with Mediterranean roasted vegetables and a lemon-flavoured oil to use with a Chinese stir-fry.
2. Set up a taste panel for a preference test that will test your two oils.

**Apply**

1. Prepare two similar samples of food (but one must be sweeter or saltier, etc.). Ask a friend to indicate their preference using the hedonic scale.
2. Prepare one sample of a food and try to assess it using the profiling test. How many aspects of that food can you assess?


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## Check your understanding: Sensory

1. Which of the following statements is CORRECT about preference test?
  - a. It is a test to judge characteristics of food.
  - b. It is a test to see whether a consumer likes or dislikes food.
  - c. It is a test to place food in a particular order.
  - d. It is a test that uses a triangle.
2. Which of the following statements is TRUE about setting up a sensory test?
  - a. The tests must be conducted under controlled conditions.
  - b. The tests must be conducted in a test kitchen at home.
  - c. The tests can only be conducted by an experienced tester.
  - d. The tests are conducted under the same conditions for every test.
3. Which of the following refers to olfaction?

 sense of hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. sense of touch
sense of smell	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. sense of taste
4. Which of the following words describes a result which is based on an opinion or taste?

a. objective	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. injective
b. subjective	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. projective
5. Explain how you would set up a taste panel for a preference test of milk based protein drinks.

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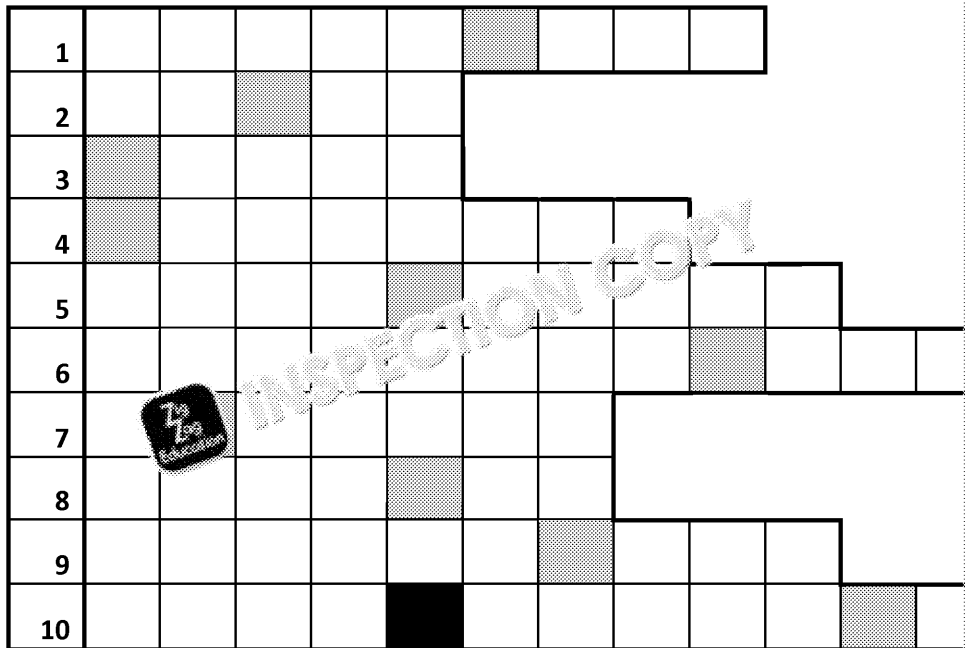
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## Quiz-ine

Fill in the answers to the questions below to reveal a word relevant to sensory perception (the black square is a space between words).



1. Sensory system used to detect aromas (9)
2. The savoury taste characteristic of meat and cheese (5)
3. One of the five senses, used to assess the appearance of food (5)
4. Sensory testing method used to identify the odd one out (8)
5. Relating to or based on individual opinion (10)
6. Characteristic of food which affects the sensory organs (12)
7. Sensory testing method which puts food samples in an order (7)
8. Scale used to assess how much a person likes or dislikes a food (7)
9. Sensory testing method which uses the scale from clue 8 (10)
10. Chart which displays various characteristics of a food product (4, 7)

The shaded squares reveal these words:



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# Chapter 3: Food safety

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## Overview

In this chapter we will look at the effects of microorganisms and enzymes and their role in food spoilage. We will also explore different sources of bacterial contamination and food poisoning, learn how to recognise and prevent them. Issues with high-risk foods and the danger zone temperatures will be addressed, along with using temperature probes to check that food is cooked thoroughly. We will also explore the use of microorganisms in food production.

## Learning outcomes

After studying this chapter you should be able to do the following:

- ☐ understand and describe the growth conditions that microorganisms need
- ☐ list the conditions needed for microorganisms to grow
- ☐ identify high-risk food items and understand what makes them high-risk
- ☐ recognise the signs of food spoilage such as mould, off-odours and changes in texture
- ☐ describe the measures for control of enzymic action
- ☐ explain the role of microorganisms in food production
- ☐ make informed decisions when buying food
- ☐ choose and justify the storage conditions for various food items
- ☐ identify the different sources of bacterial contamination
- ☐ list the main sources of bacterial food poisoning
- ☐ recognise the main symptoms of food poisoning
- ☐ explain different ways of preventing cross-contamination

## Key Terms

<b>Aerobic bacteria</b>	Bacteria that require oxygen to live and multiply
<b>Allergen</b>	A substance, e.g. an ingredient in food such as nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction in susceptible people
<b>Anaerobic bacteria</b>	Bacteria that do not require oxygen to live and multiply
<b>Blanching</b>	The process of plunging food (usually vegetables and fruit) into boiling water for a short time, then draining and refreshing it in cold water before freezing or drying
<b>Blast chiller</b>	A machine used in commercial kitchens to cool food quickly by circulating cold air over it
<b>Cold store</b>	A room or large cupboard area where stored food can be kept at low temperatures
<b>Cross-contamination</b>	The means by which bacteria are transferred from one surface or utensil to another
<b>Danger zone</b>	The temperature range in which most food poisoning bacteria multiply: -5 °C to 63 °C
<b>Date marks</b>	'Best before' dates refer to the date at which the quality of the food is still expected to be acceptable. 'Use by' dates are used for perishable foods and refer to the date by which the food should be consumed
<b>Dietary reference value</b>	Estimated requirements for energy and nutrients for a specific group of people (e.g. toddlers, teenage girls, adult men)
<b>Dry food area</b>	A dry, clean, well-ventilated room in which food can be stored
<b>Enzyme</b>	A biological catalyst usually made from protein which speeds up chemical reactions
<b>Fermentation</b>	The breakdown of sugar performed by bacteria and yeast to produce alcohol and carbon dioxide
<b>Friendly bacteria</b>	Used in probiotic products designed to improve gut health
<b>Health claim</b>	Statement on food packaging which refers directly to the health benefits of the consumption of a given product
<b>High-risk food</b>	Food which has ideal conditions for bacterial growth, such as high-protein food OR ready-to-eat food that will eat without the need for any further cooking

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## Key Terms

<b>Microbial spoilage</b>	See spoilage bacteria
<b>Microorganism</b>	An organism (e.g. bacterium) that is too small to see and needs to be viewed under a microscope
<b>Non-mandatory information</b>	Information which may appear on food labelling that is not required by law (e.g. serving suggestions)
<b>Nutrition claim</b>	Statement on a food packaging which refers to benefits for health or the product
<b>Oxidation</b>	Process that occurs when foods are cut and exposed to air (e.g. browning)
<b>Pathogenic bacteria</b>	Bad bacteria which can cause illness. A <b>pathogen</b> is an organism that causes disease
<b>Perishable</b>	Food with a limited 'use by' date that will not 'keep' for long
<b>Personal hygiene</b>	Ensuring personal cleanliness to prevent bacterial contamination
<b>pH scale</b>	Measures acidity/alkalinity: 7 = neutral, <7 = acidic, >7 = alkaline
<b>Spoilage bacteria</b>	Bacteria that make food 'go off'
<b>Spore</b>	A reproductive cell capable of developing into another cell by binary fission. The means by which mould (and other fungi) reproduce
<b>Stock rotation</b>	Items are prioritised subject to a principle of 'first in, first out' so that items already in stock are used before freshly delivered items
<b>Work surface</b>	A surface such as a table or counter top on which food is prepared
<b>Thawing temperature</b>	The recommended temperature at which food is thawed
<b>Temperature gauge</b>	A gauge positioned on the outside of appliances that allows the temperature to be seen and recorded
<b>Temperature probe</b>	A handheld device that is used to measure the temperature of the thickest part of the food to check its internal temperature

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## Microorganisms (food spoilage)

The knowledge and ability to apply food safety principles when buying, storing, cooking and preparing food is essential to ensure that the food is nutritious and safe to eat. Correctly handling food products and preventing cross-contamination. Let's have a look at what causes food spoilage and how to prevent it.

### Microorganisms in food (bacteria, mould and yeast)

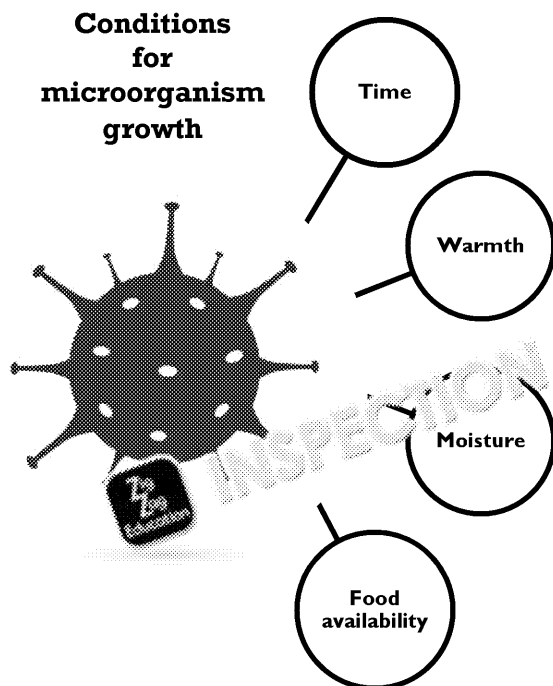
An organism is an individual animal, plant, fungus, bacterium or single-celled life form. A **microorganism** is an organism that is too small to see with the naked eye and needs to be viewed under a microscope. Microorganisms can be carried on food or in water and can cause food poisoning. Microorganisms can also be used in food production; for example, bacteria in bio-yoghurt, yeast in bread and moulds in blue cheese.

#### The role of microorganisms in food production

Microorganism	Good	Bad
Bacteria	'Friendly' bacteria are used in probiotic products designed to improve gut flora.	Microbial bacteria can cause food poisoning (spoilage bacteria) and disease (pathogens).
Yeast	This is used in bread making. Yeast produces carbon dioxide to make dough rise. Yeast is also used to make fruit ferment and is used to create alcohol.	A single-celled fungus family. Can cause problems in food production and cause food spoilage.
Mould	Mould is used in cheesemaking to improve flavour (blue cheese).	Mould can grow on food and make it unsafe to eat. Making them inedible.

Microorganisms need certain conditions in order to grow and multiply. These conditions are:

#### Conditions for microorganism growth



#### Where are microorganisms found?

Microorganisms are found everywhere:

- rubbish
- clothing
- soil
- food products
- water
- air
- dust
- saliva
- animal droppings
- dandruff
- tears
- phlegm
- pus
- blood
- urine and faeces
- skin cells

These will be discussed in greater detail later on in this chapter.

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## Bacteria

There are 'good' and 'bad' bacteria – good bacteria are also referred to as '**friendly**' bacteria, and they help to maintain good gut flora (complex microorganisms that live in the digestive system). **Good bacteria** are needed to help digest food and also to make yoghurt and probiotic products.

**Spoilage bacteria** make food 'go off', rot or spoil. This is referred to as **microbial** and sometimes smell the changes in the food caused by these microorganisms. Microbial bacteria, yeasts and moulds.

**Bad bacteria** which can cause illness (food poisoning) are referred to as **pathogenic** and lead to bacterial infections such as *E. coli*, *Clostridium perfringens* and *Campylobacter*. *Salmonella* are bad bacteria which can cause illness and cannot be seen or smelled in food. Pathogenic bacteria can come from the following sources:

- Raw foods
- Pests and domestic animals
- People (for example, hands, hair, nose, throat and infected cuts)
- Air
- Dirt and soil (unwashed vegetables and salads)
- Food waste

## Research

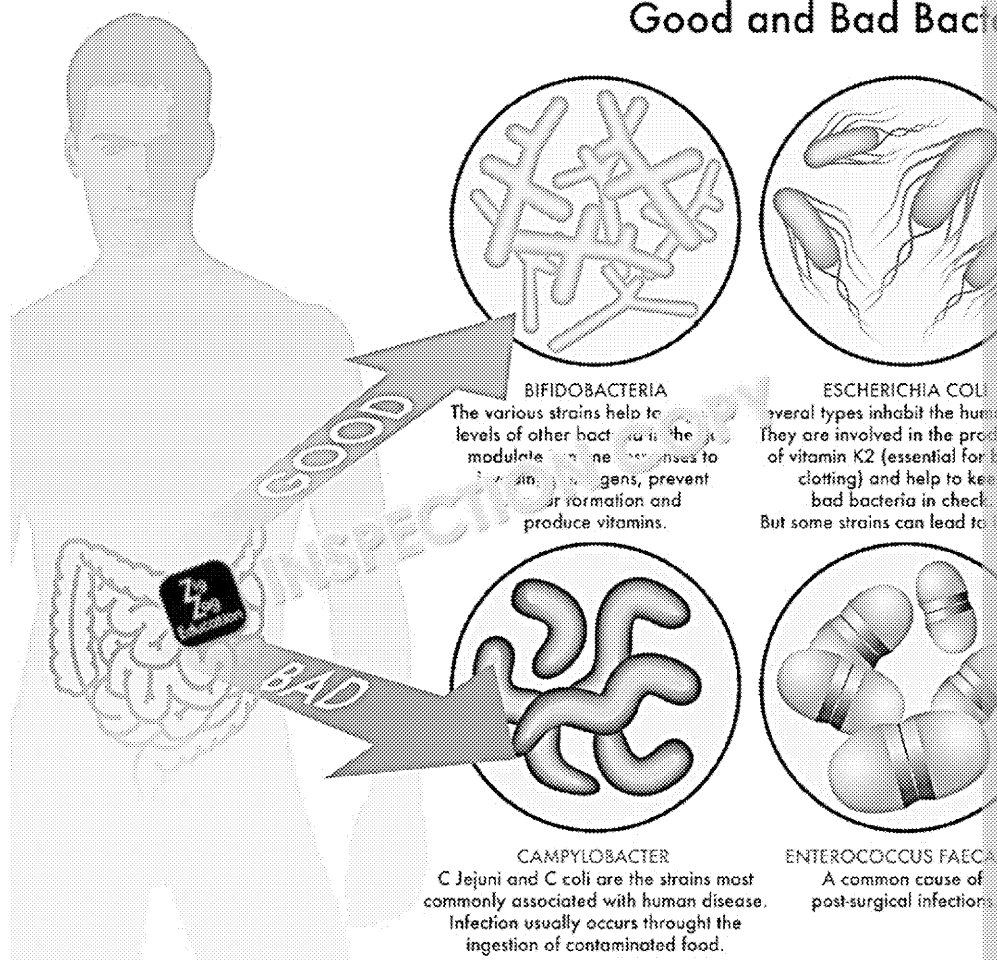
Research food poisoning symptoms and causes on the NHS website using the URL: <https://www.nhs.uk/8228-nhs-food-poisoning>



### Things to think about (3.1)

Think about who is most at risk from food poisoning, and why.

## Good and Bad Bacteria



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## Yeast

Yeast is a microscopic fungus used in **fermentation** of food products such as bread. Fermentation is a process caused by combining yeast and sugar. Yeast turns sugar 'rise' by producing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) gas. Yeast can cause digestive problems and cause **food spoilage** through fermentation (as yeast uses up sugar and produces CO<sub>2</sub> gas, which makes the food becomes sour and slightly fizzy, which is not necessarily desired in most foods).

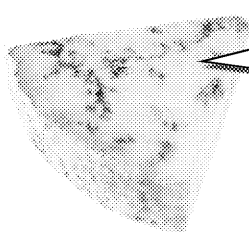


*Yeast has an important role in bread making – it makes dough rise, it strengthens the bread dough and its fermentation develops flavour*

## Mould

A mould is a fungus that reproduces via **spores**, which grow on organic matter, such as food, when the conditions are present, i.e. warmth and moisture. Mould is used in the production of Stilton, Gorgonzola and Roquefort and produces a blue-veined appearance. Blue cheese has a strong, pungent taste. Mould in food produces enzymes, which break down the food and cause food to spoil. Mould can also cause allergic reactions and produce harmful toxins called mycotoxins.

### Mould in Food Production



Mould in blue cheese gives a blue-veined appearance and a pungent taste.



Mould in bread is visible with initially a white or greenish colour.

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## The role of temperature, moisture, pH and time

To survive and multiply, bacteria need certain conditions such as *time, food (protein), warmth and moisture*.

Imagine a frozen chicken (high in protein, moist) left to thaw on a sunny windowsill (time, warmth). Freezing the chicken has slowed down bacterial growth, but as soon as it starts to thaw the conditions become right for bacteria to grow. The optimum temperature for bacteria to grow is the human body temperature of 37 °C. The combination of time and warmth helps the bacteria to start growing. They start to divide every 10–20 minutes (binary fission process) and bacteria will soon multiply and the food will be in the **DANGER ZONE**.

### Control of microorganisms – temperature

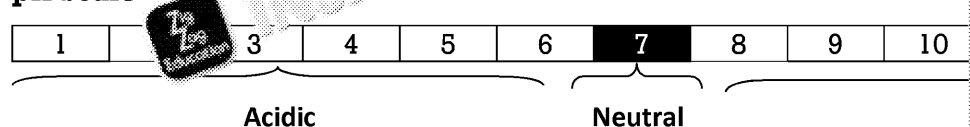
Bacteria can multiply at temperatures between five degrees centigrade (5 °C) and 63 degrees centigrade (63 °C), with the optimum temperature being 37 degrees centigrade (human body temperature). Even if cooked at high temperatures, **high risk** food (e.g. any food that has been cooked and will not go through any other procedure to kill bacteria, such as a chicken or egg mayonnaise sandwich) passes through the **DANGER ZONE** as it cools down. *Between the temperatures of 5 °C and 63 °C is where bacteria can grow and multiply.* Bacteria can be killed off at temperatures of at least 75 °C in the centre of food. If reheated, the centre must be at least 82 °C.

Although bacteria can be killed at temperatures of 75 °C or above, at temperatures below 75 °C they are slow down ready to grow and multiply once conditions are right, i.e. the food passes through the **DANGER ZONE**. Freezing food at the recommended temperature of -18 °C does not guarantee that it will slow them down. Bacteria may still be present and given time, warmth, moisture and food, of these elements, bacteria start to grow and multiply.

### Control of microorganisms – pH

**pH** refers to neutrality, acidity and alkalinity, and it plays a part in controlling microorganisms. Pickling has been used for centuries (such as in pickling) to control microorganisms in food. Some pickled foods have a pH of 4.8 and below (acidic). On the pH scale, 7 is neutral (pH 7), below 7 is acidic and over 7 is alkaline. Lemon juice and vinegar are acidic.

#### pH Scale



#### Litmus test

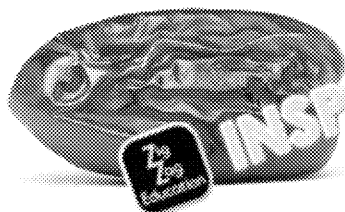
Litmus paper allows you to test the acidity of food yourself. A pH test kit contains litmus paper and a colour chart. The litmus paper is dipped into the food and then compared to the colour on the pH chart to determine its acidity or alkalinity. Litmus paper changes colour depending on the pH. It is red when acidic and blue when alkaline. If you dip blue litmus in an acid such as lemon juice, it will turn red. If you dip red litmus paper in an alkali such as baking soda dissolved in water, it will turn blue.

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## Control of microorganisms – water availability

Bacteria, mould and yeast need moisture in order to survive, and the availability of water within a food item determines whether these microorganisms can exist or multiply. Dehydrating or desiccating foods helps to inhibit moulds, yeast and bacteria. This is why drying foods can be an effective preservation technique that helps prevent spoilage and increases shelf life. Preparation for drying may include washing and blanching fruit and vegetables before they are dried. Some nutrients, such as vitamins C and A, can be lost during the drying process. The food preservative sulphur dioxide is sometimes added to dried foods to prevent spoilage (e.g. in apricots) and to prevent loss of vitamins. Sulphur dioxide is listed as an allergen on food labels because it can cause a reaction in some people.



Preserving foods, such as fruit, through dehydration has been used for centuries. Examples of dried foods include raisins, sultanas, nuts, apricots and tomatoes. The methods used include:

- sun-drying
- oven-drying or microwave-drying
- dehydrators or air-dryers

## Research

Look up house rules on temperatures and bacterial contamination on the Food Standards Agency website using the redirect URL [zzed.uk/8228-food.gov.uk](https://www.food.gov.uk/redirect?url=https://www.food.gov.uk/food-safety/hygiene-rules)



## Things to think about (3.2)

Why is the optimum temperature for human pathogens 37 °C?



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## Signs of food spoilage

Spoilage refers to decay and decomposition of food items. Food that has decayed or is in the process of decaying may lose some or all of its nutritional value and not be fit to eat. Correct storage of food can help to prevent spoilage. Enzymic action causes ripening (e.g. of fruit such as bananas) and browning of some fruits and vegetables. Yeast reacts with sugars to cause **fermentation**. This process can occur with fruit such as grapes which contain naturally occurring sugars and yeast on their skins. Yeast and mould growth are signs of age and spoilage. Other fruits that can be affected by yeasts and moulds are blueberries, strawberries, blackberries, citrus fruits.

Spoilage can be slowed down by:

- preserving food
- handling food correctly
- storing food at correct temperatures

Although you can't see **pathogenic bacteria** with the naked eye, **spoilage bacteria** cause a process of decay that can be recognised in the following ways:

- the colour of food – e.g. browning
- the smell
- the texture – e.g. wrinkling or shrivelling
- the taste
- mould growth

Bacterial growth can be prevented by using preservatives such as salt and sugar or lemon juice. Preservatives may also be used in food, such as sulphur dioxide for browning) – sulphur compounds may appear in the ingredients list as sulphites (E220), metabisulphite, potassium bisulphite, sodium metabisulphite or sodium sulphite. These may cause an allergic reaction in some people. To prevent spoilage, food preservation methods include the following:

- curing, salting and pickling
- smoking
- vacuum sealing
- heat treatment (e.g. UHT) and pasteurisation
- low temperatures
- drying
- irradiation

### Research

Look up the general legal regulations regarding food law at the Government Food Agency website using the reference <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-law> or <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-law>

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## Prepare fruit and vegetables to prevent yeast and mould growth

Some fruit and vegetables sustain yeast and mould more than others (e.g. grapes) and need to be prepared carefully in order to prevent their growth. Preparation of fruit and vegetables (yeast and mould growth is contained on the skin) can deter **microorganism** growth.

### Skills

#### Skin a tomato

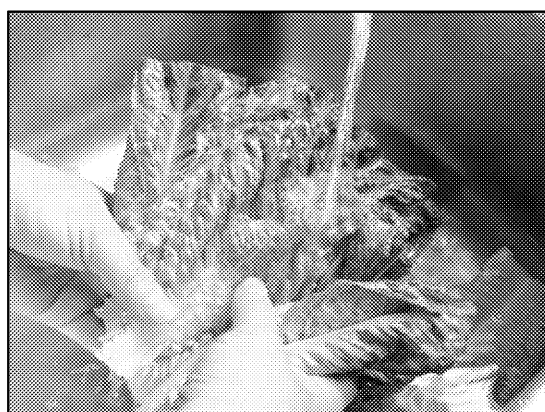
(take care with hot water and sharp implements)

Using a knife, slice an X on the base of the tomato. Place the tomato in a bowl of boiling water to loosen the skin, and leave until skin starts to curl around the X. Remove the tomato and allow it to cool. To stop the cooking process (use a spoon) and then peel. **S2**



### Skills

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Soil contains **pathogens** present on unwashed grains, such as rice and vegetables helps to

After washing fruit and vegetables, chilling to deter **microorganisms** some exceptions be

### Did you know?

Some fruit has to be ripe before placing in a refrigerator as chilling stops the fruit from ripening (e.g. melons, oranges and tomatoes).



### Did you know?

Root vegetables like potatoes stored in a cool, dark place

### Apply

List three food items that quickly show signs of decay with age.



### Skills

Demonstrate washing and chilling fruit/vegetables.

2. Demonstrate different ways of preparing food to control enzymic browning.



### Things to think about (3.3)

Why do some foods show signs of spoilage before others?

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## High-risk foods

Bacteria prefer moist foods that are high in protein and as they exist where there is warmth, moisture, food and time, given one or more of these conditions they can start growing. Foods in this category include meat, poultry, fish, shellfish, eggs, milk and dairy products. High-risk foods are foods that have been cooked and left to cool down to be served cold later. High-risk food will not go through any other process to kill bacteria. Hot foods should be kept hot and cold foods should be kept cold. Bacteria numbers can begin to rise again once food is thawed or reheated.

High-risk foods  
The food is still to be consumed

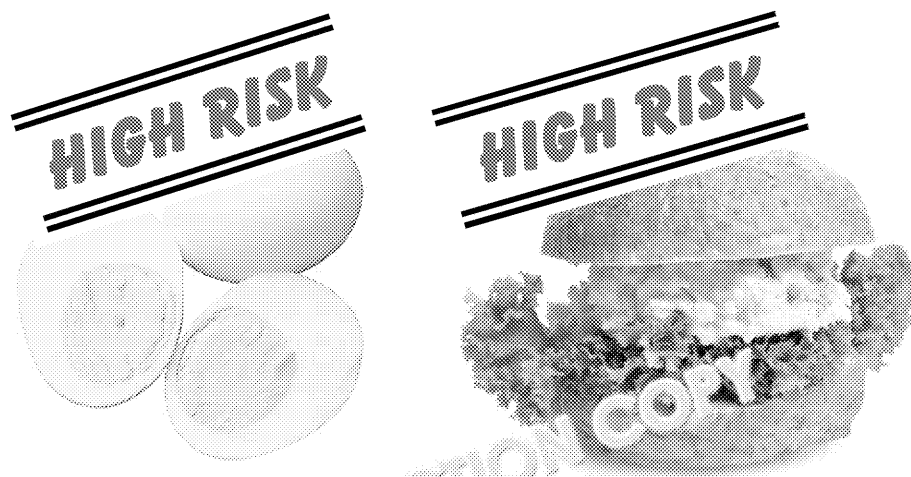
When dealing with high-risk foods, you should ensure that:

- your hands are clean throughout the day and handling is kept to a minimum
- stored food is kept covered
- the temperature is kept within the danger zone of between 5 °C and 63 °C
- raw food and high-risk food are kept separate – *clean utensils after chopping raw food, transferring from the meat to the board or surface and utensils. contamination with ready-to-eat foods. Store raw meat on the bottom shelf, dripping onto other foods.*

Be extra vigilant when dealing with the following high-risk food:

- cooked meat and poultry – e.g. chicken drumsticks, burgers, sausage rolls
- milk and other dairy products – e.g. ice cream or products containing cooked milk
- shellfish and seafood – e.g. prawn cocktail, fish pâté, scampi
- cooked rice (the longer rice is left at room temperature the more likely the bacteria or toxins making it unsafe. See more on p. 84).

Chicken and poultry should never be washed before cooking as water droplets from the washing can spread bacteria onto work surfaces, utensils or food.



### Danger Zone

Food is in the danger zone when it starts to cool and the temperature is between 5 °C and 63 °C.

### Ready-to-eat foods

Ready-to-eat foods such as a chicken sandwich, burger, egg or sausage roll are referred to as **HIGH-RISK** because they have passed through temperatures between 5 °C and 63 °C and will not be subject to any other process that will slow down or kill bacteria.

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## Check your understanding Microorganisms (food spoilage)

- Which of the following statements about **enzymic browning** is incorrect?  
a. It causes ripening of fruit. ☐ b. It causes discolouration of fruit. ☐  
c. It is accelerated by oxygen. ☐ d. It causes the pH to become more acidic. ☐
- Which of the following methods would NOT help to deter microorganisms from growing on tomatoes?  
a. Skinning and chilling ☐ b. Seeding and washing ☐  
c. Storing at room temperature ☐ d. Washing and chilling ☐
- What temperature is referred to as the **DANGER ZONE**?  
a. Between 5 °C and 10 °C ☐ b. Less than 5 °C ☐  
c. More than 10 °C ☐ d. Between 5 °C and 10 °C ☐
- Which of the following statements about preserving food is FALSE?  
a. Bacterial growth can be prevented by using...  
i. vinegar ☐ ii. salt ☐  
c. pepper ☐ d. sugar ☐

- Describe three ways in which temperature control can prevent food spoilage by bacteria and/or enzymes.

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

- Explain how microorganisms such as pathogenic bacteria can cause food poisoning.

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## Microorganisms (food products)

Bacteria, yeast and mould are not always bad for us – in fact, varieties of all three can be used to produce foods such as bread and bread products (flatbread, bagels, pizza or calzone), soya products, to name a few. It is important to remember that only selected species are used in food production to cause more harm than good. Microorganisms in food production are responsible for the texture of the given product, and help to improve its shelf life and nutritional value, as well as its flavour.

### The role of yeast, mould and bacteria in food production

Various microorganisms can be used in food production for different reasons. For example, yeast is used as a raising agent in baked goods and to ferment sugars into alcohol in the production of beer. Various species of bacteria can be used in the manufacturing of dairy products, but also to produce fermented meats. Mould is used in production of dairy products and sauces. Sometimes multiple microorganisms are used in the production of one product, as the combination allows to obtain the desired effect.

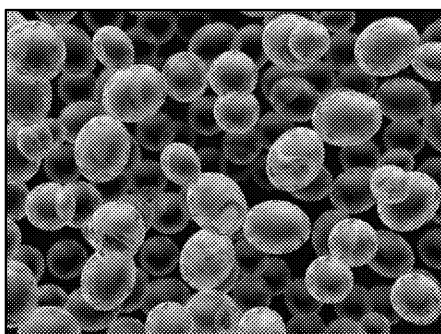
#### How is yeast used in bread making?

Yeast is a type of fungus used in bread making to make bread dough rise. Yeast works by breaking down sugars into alcohol, which, in turn, releases carbon dioxide. It is the carbon dioxide that makes the dough rise. The type of yeast used in bread production is referred to as baker's yeast (or brewer's yeast in alcohol production). The strain of yeast is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Yeast can be isolated from the skins of fruit. Yeast can also be produced commercially for bread making.

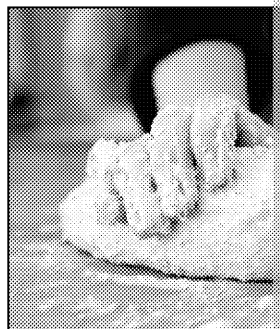
**Did you know?**

Blue mould grows on lemons.

*Baker's yeast breaks down sugars and releases carbon dioxide*



*Carbon dioxide makes dough rise in a bakery*



#### How is mould used in blue cheese?

A culture of the blue mould *Penicillium* is used to create the blue-veined appearance of 'blue' cheeses such as Roquefort (from sheep's milk), Gorgonzola and Stilton (from cows' milk). The mould is used by cheese makers to enhance flavour and produce a pungent taste and smell. It does this by breaking down compounds (fats and proteins) within the cheese and releasing **enzymes**. This process also lowers the pH, making the cheese more acidic.

Mould requires oxygen to grow. Air holes within the cheese act as pockets in which the mould can spread (sometimes bacterial cultures are added to create the holes).

The *Penicillium* mould culture is found naturally (blue mould grows on lemons) and is also commercially manufactured in laboratories. The *Penicillium* mould is non-toxic, unlike other moulds that grow on food, and so can be safely used in food production without the risk of producing mycotoxins. To prevent further mould growth (from oxygen) once 'blueing' has occurred, the cheese is wrapped in foil and placed at a lower temperature.

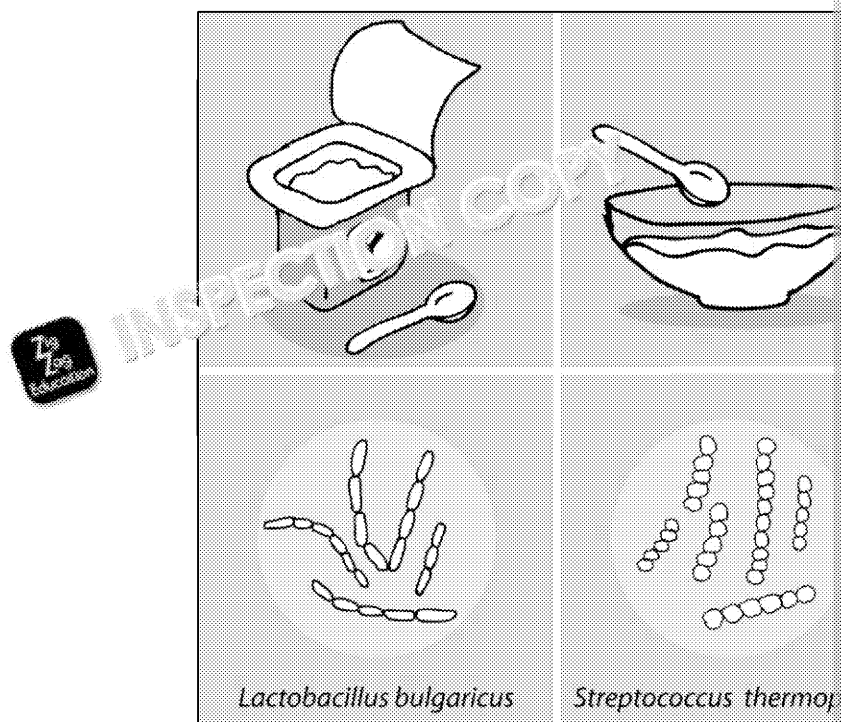
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### How is bacteria used in yoghurt?

The bacteria used in yoghurt are *Streptococcus thermophilus* and *Lactobacillus bulgaricus*. These bacteria eat the sugars in the milk (called lactose) and create lactic acid. This lowers the pH of the milk. The acid process makes milk curdle, thereby producing yoghurt (a type of **fermentation**). These are 'friendly' bacteria as they aid digestion and help to improve gut flora. Products are referred to as 'probiotic'.



### How microorganisms are used in production of meat products

Some fermented meat products such as Spanish chorizo, Italian salami or French saucisson are made using 'good' bacteria and mould. These are added to raw, minced meat, where they cause chemical reactions. The different species and varieties of microorganism have different functions.

- *Micrococcus* bacteria transform nitrate to nitrite – as a result, this the meat has a pink colour, and the sausage is safe to eat.
- *Lactobacillus* bacteria lower the pH of the sausage, making its flavour slightly sour and firmer texture (through denaturation of protein in meat) – the ready sausage is cooked.
- *Penicillium* moulds create a white coat on the surface, which is desirable for some products.

The 'good' bacteria and moulds also help to protect the sausage from the harmful varieties, increasing its shelf life. The fermented meat is then mixed with salt and spices, put into natural or artificial casings, and hung to dry and mature. During the last step, some sausages can also be smoked (this is popular for German and Hungarian fermented sausages, for example). The various preservation methods used during production of these meat products mean they can be safely stored even outside the fridge.

Fermented  
sausage with  
white mould

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**Apply**

Read the article at [zzed.uk/8228-raw-sausages](https://www.zzed.uk/8228-raw-sausages) and list all of the preservation methods used in the production of fermented sausages. Explain why low temperatures have to be used.

### Microorganism use in the drinks industry

When yeast ferments sugar, it produces not only carbon dioxide (which is very helpful in baking), but also ethanol. The reaction was used in China in 7000 BC to produce wine from fruit, honey and rice. Today yeast is widely used in the production of alcoholic beverages such as beer, cider, wine and champagne. During production, the sugar-rich ingredients are first prepared and pumped into large containers. There, specially grown yeast species are added – they transform the sugar from fruit or barley, and produce alcohol and carbon dioxide. That's why most of these beverages are fizzy!

### Other foods made with the use of microorganisms

Fermentation has been used as a popular way of preserving foods around the world from ancient times – even though people didn't understand the mechanisms behind it. Today we know that fermentation is caused by probiotic bacteria, mould and yeast.

*Champagne  
in thin*

The products made with them usually have a characteristic flavour, aroma and texture. These products include:

- soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, fish sauce, Tabasco
- pickles (e.g. pickled gherkins)
- sauerkraut and kimchi (Asian-style sauerkraut)
- milk beverages, e.g. kefir, ayran, *Actimel*® and *Yakult*®
- kombucha (beverage made of tea, sugar, yeast and bacteria, drunk instead of fizzy drinks)
- tempeh and miso paste (made of fermented soya beans)
- cocoa beans (yes, they also undergo fermentation before being turned into chocolate!)
- Pu-erh tea
- olives
- fish preserves, e.g. anchovies in the Mediterranean region and surströmming in Sweden

### Skills

1. Demonstrate the effect of yeast in making bread rise.
2. Make a bread dough, and finish and shape it for use in pizza, breads, etc.

**S7**

### Things to think about

Think of other foods that go through a fermentation process.

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## Check your understanding Microorganisms (food production)

1. Which of the following mould cultures is used for making blue cheese?
  - a. Mycotoxins ☐
  - b. *Penicillium* ☐
  - c. Spores ☐
  - d. Lactose ☐
2. What is the name for sugars in milk on which bacteria feed?
  - a. Fructose ☐
  - b. Lactose ☐
  - c. Sucrose ☐
  - d. Maltose ☐
3. Lactic acid causes which type of process to occur to create yoghurt?
  - a. Boiling ☐
  - b. Curdling ☐
  - c. Whipping ☐
  - d. Setting ☐
4. Describe the function of bacteria in cheesemaking.



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5. Explain how the processing of salami helps to make it microbiologically safe.

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## Buying food

Buying food seems an easy job. You go to the shop, choose what you need, pay for it and take it home. But there is a lot more to it than that. How many questions do you ask yourself before deciding whether to buy a product? You need to know what product you need, in what quantity, whether it is fresh and of good quality, and whether it is safe for consumption. In this chapter you will learn what to pay attention to when buying food for consumption.

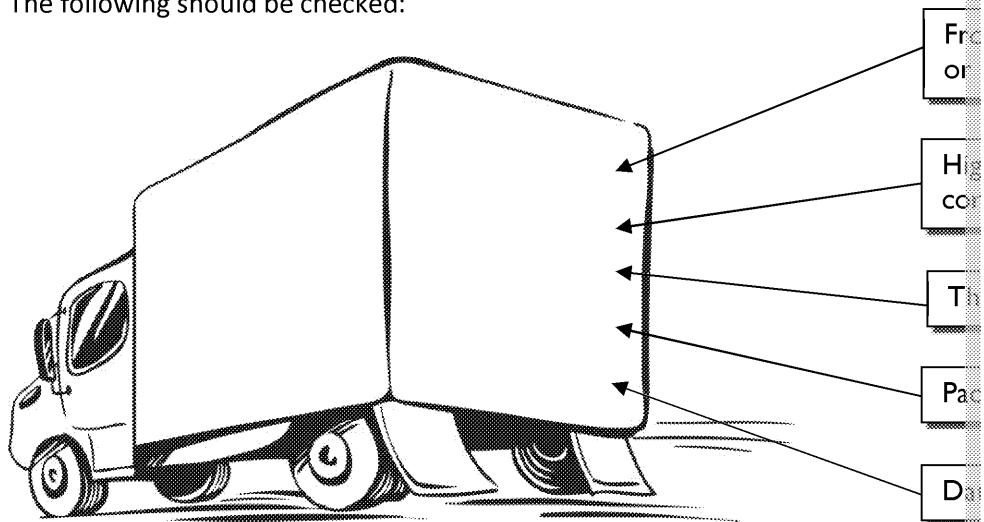
The food we eat comes from both plants (grown in fields, orchards and polytunnels) and animals (from farms and fish tanks or caught in the wild). The farmers, growers and hunters then sell their produce to food factories, who process it to make food. The food is then transported to supermarkets, where we are able to buy food to cook the dinner. It is important to pay attention to how food is processed, transported and stored, as this can affect its safety and quality.

### Deliveries

When raw or **perishable** food is delivered, it should be at a safe temperature: less than 8°C for refrigerated foods and less than -18°C for frozen foods. When taking deliveries, the following should be checked:

- Date marks
- Packaging
- Temperature

Deliveries should be rejected if food is out of date, if packaging is damaged or if the temperature is not correct. The following should be checked:



When storing food after a delivery, the following guidelines should be observed:

- Handle food with care – do not drop food or damage packaging
- Store **perishable** food first
- Store food at correct temperature
- Do NOT store food on the floor
- Keep food away from pests and be aware of the signs of pests
- Keep storage area clean

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## Date marks

When checking **date marks**, ensure that you know the difference between 'best before' and 'use by' dates.

Best before	
'Best before' dates refer to the date at which the quality of food will be affected. Food may still be safe to eat after this date. So 'best before' dates refer to <b>QUALITY</b> .	'Use by' dates are used for perishable food such as fish or dairy products. Food after this date should <b>NOT</b> be eaten. This refers to the <b>SAFETY</b> of the food.
It is illegal to serve or sell food past its 'use by' date.	

## Storage rotation

When storing food, it is important to use the correct **storage rotation** methods. Food with a short shelf life should be used before food with a longer shelf life and it should be stored accordingly, with items with a short shelf life stored in front of items with a longer shelf life. Always check the date mark on food before using it.



### Things to think about (3.5)

Why is storage rotation important?

## What to look for when buying food: visual checks

Visually checking the food is probably the simplest way of ensuring that it is fresh. You should make sure that the food looks as it should. The table below will help you to check what to buy is OK to use.

	What to look for?
<b>Packaging (see more on the next page)</b>	Clean, whole, undamaged; no unintended holes or tears; contents clearly visible
<b>Fruit and vegetables</b>	Not wrinkled <sup>1</sup> ; firm; no brown or black stains <sup>2</sup> ; undamaged
<b>Fish</b>	Clear, bright eyes; eyes not sunken; bright red gills; skin is firm and shiny; tail is stiff
<b>Meat</b>	Bright colour (not dull) – the shade will depend on the type of meat; cuts are tightly packed and firm; cuts are smooth, with no visible fat or blood; firm (not yellow)
<b>Milk and dairy</b>	The lid is not bulging; the milk is not curdled or separated; no visible mould with mould <sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Passion fruit is an exception!

<sup>2</sup> Occasional soil is OK, as some vegetables keep longer when unwashed.

<sup>3</sup> It is OK in yoghurts and creams, though, (yoghurt separates because during fermentation it releases the water; it is natural, and the yoghurt is still safe for consumption – simply shake before using; the cream separates into two layers – fat and water; as you might already know, fat and water don't mix, so the process is totally natural – simply shake or stir before using).

<sup>4</sup> This doesn't apply to cheeses such as blue cheese, Camembert or Brie, where mould is used.

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## Packaging

The packaging of food is important as it fulfils many different functions. Food manufacturers have to ensure that the type of packaging used for a chosen product is safe (doesn't interact with the food inside), cheap, light and easy to transport. There are four main functions of packaging:

1. It protects the food from external factors such as light, oxygen, dirt or microorganisms (protection).
2. It informs the consumer about the product (information).
3. It attracts consumers to it and tempts them to buy it (marketing).
4. It increases the shelf life of a given product.



Crisps  
This has

When buying and storing food, you have to pay attention to the following:

- whether it is whole and intact – any holes, tears and other unintended openings allow microorganisms to get in, through to the food and contaminating it; this means that the food is no longer protected from oxygen (and oxidation)
- whether the date marks are clear and easy to read (e.g. not covered by a price sticker), and whether the food is not past its date
- whether the ingredients of the product are safe, e.g. whether it is allergen-free for those who are allergic to a particular food, or whether it is gluten-free for coeliacs
- whether it requires any special storage conditions – usually the producers state if a food has to be refrigerated or frozen
- whether the food is stored correctly in the shop – e.g. yoghurt is in a fridge / cooler area
- whether the lid or packaging is not 'bulging' – this can mean that harmful bacteria, such as *Clostridium botulinum*, have developed in the food, and it is best to throw it away, even if all the other checks were OK.



This cardboard  
bumping into  
package you can  
a fridge after purchase

## Reputable supplier

Many people choose to buy foods in well-known places – it is usually difficult to make them buy in a totally new shop. This is partly because with time we come to have confidence that the food hygiene rules are obeyed, food is always fresh and of good quality etc. When buying food, especially in restaurants and takeaways, it is worth checking if the supplier runs a food safety management system and what its hygiene ratings are. It is also worth checking if the menu provides any information on ingredients and allergens used, as trustworthy suppliers put more effort into consumer information and safety. Some places can also display a food safety document, such as ISO or HACCP.



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## Food labelling

Food labelling can affect an individual's food choice, whether through providing information about the nutritional value, fat, sugar and/or salt content or by listing potential allergens or ingredients that need to be avoided by some people. Some information is mandatory, such as ingredients, and some information, such as serving suggestions, is non-mandatory. Food marketing can influence food choice by using ploys such as 'buy one, get one free' (BOGOF) offers and special offers.

### Mandatory information:

Allergenic ingredients  
Nutritional information  
Date marks

### Non-mandatory information:

Serving suggestions



### Influences



### Mandatory information

Mandatory information on labelling is currently governed by EU (European Union) Agency (FSA) legislation and mostly applies to pre-packed foods from December 2016. Nutritional labelling legislation was introduced in December 2016. Mandatory information includes the following:

Mandatory information on food labels	
<b>The name of the food</b>	This must be the real name that meets certain naming standards for marketing purposes. For example, a fat spread made of 50% oil cannot be called 'butter'.
<b>List of ingredients</b>	This must include allergenic ingredients which must be emphasised. Ingredients must be listed by weight in descending value within the list. This helps to ensure food safety as the consumer can assess the ingredients and avoid products which might cause them harm, e.g. plain wheat flour, a coeliac will see it in bold and will know to avoid it.
<b>Quantitative ingredients declaration</b>	Referred to as QUID, this provides a percentage of particular ingredients in the product (unless used in small quantities as flavourings).
<b>Net quantity</b>	This is the weight or volume of the product.
<b>Nutrition labelling</b>	From December 2016, food labels must include nutritional information. Whether health claims have been made on the packaging, the sugar content in high caffeine content in drinks must be labelled. High salt content for pregnant women or breastfeeding women. High fat content (150 mg per litre). The nutritional value for energy, fat, sugar, protein and salt has to be included either per 100 g or per 100 ml.
<b>Date marks</b>	This includes best before or use by dates (these are discussed in more detail later).
<b>Name and address</b>	This is the name and address of the food supplier. It is very important as the company is responsible for the product, as it helps to track the product. e.g. a piece of glass found in a tin of mushy peas. Food safety can be traced back to the producer more easily and the producer can take steps to prevent the incident – or decide to withdraw a whole batch from the market if it encounters the problem.



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<b>Type of treatment used</b>	This treatment could be: freeze-dried, refrozen, dried, smoked or concentrated. <i>A label must indicate whether an ingredient has been treated.</i> A label also has to indicate if the food contains GM organisms derived from GM animals and plants.
<b>Country of origin</b>	In some cases it is mandatory to label the country of origin. Pictures on the packaging could mislead consumers. Countries for fresh, chilled and frozen meat from sheep, pigs, goats and horses.
<b>Storage conditions</b>	For example, advice to use a product within a specified number of days. This helps to ensure the safety of food, as proper storage can prevent the growth of microorganisms.
<b>Added water</b>	If it is more than 5%, it must be displayed on the label.
<b>Added ingredients</b>	Added proteins, sweeteners, aspartame and colourings must be displayed on a label. Licorice must also be displayed on a label. An appropriate warning must be given as well, if applicable.
<b>Lot number or batch number</b>	This is very important for easily identifying all products from a specific batch. If a fault is discovered (e.g. a piece of glass or a toxic substance) the producer can quickly and effectively remove the faulty batch.
<b>Preparation instructions</b>	These help the consumers to prepare, cook and reheat the food for the best experience (in terms of flavour, texture and nutrition).

Ingredients: Sugar, Glucose Syrup, Flavourings & Colours May Contain **E102, E110, E142, E155, E171. E no's listed in BOLD, may have an adverse effect on activity**  
**MOWBRAY Confectionery, Blackpool FY3 7UN ENGLA**

*Example of a mandatory warning on a food label*

### Non-mandatory information

Non-mandatory information found on labelling includes: serving suggestions, eating instructions, picture of the food inside; health and nutrition claims, etc.

A serving suggestion attempts to display the food product in the best possible way to make it look appetising and may also display pictures of ingredients or food not contained in the product.

### Nutritional labelling

From December 2016 all packaging must include the following nutrition information (per 100 g or per 100 ml, or per portion).

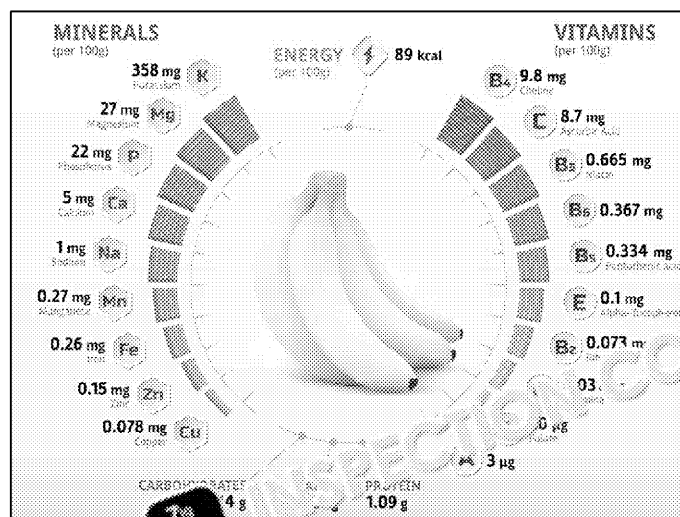
- energy (in kJ and kcal)
- fat (in g)
- saturates (in g)
- carbohydrate (in g)
- sugars (in g)
- protein (in g)
- salt (in g)

The ingredients are displayed in the nutritional information per 100 g or per 100 ml.

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If a claim has been made about any nutrient within the product, then the amount included in the nutritional information.



The nutritional information for 100g of banana shows that we can get 89 calories from 100g of banana. This is approximately 10% of the recommended daily intake of 890 calories. The protein content is 1.09g, which is approximately 2% of the recommended daily intake of 50g.

The recommended daily amount stated on nutritional labelling is now called the RDA (recommended daily amount). The RI values are based on an average-sized female with a sedentary lifestyle. The RI indicates the maximum recommended daily amount that can be consumed without causing health problems.

The RI for an average man and woman is:

	Woman	
Energy	8,400 kJ / 2,000 kcal	100%
Total fat	70 g	
Saturates	20 g	
Carbohydrate	260 g	
Total sugars	90 g	
Protein	50 g	
Salt	6 g	

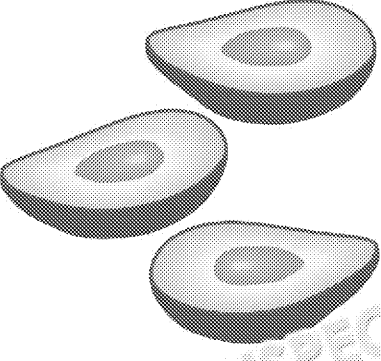
An average woman should consume around 2,000 calories and an average man 2,500–2,800 calories per day. An average banana provides 103 calories, which is just over 5 % of a woman's recommended daily calorie intake. The recommended calorie intake for a balanced diet is 45 % to 65 % from carbohydrates, 10 % to 15 % from proteins and 20 % to 30 % from fat.



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The nutritional information is usually displayed as a percentage of the RI, so an average adult male would need to eat 2 avocados to get the total calories for an average woman.

Avocado Nutrition Facts	
	
Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1 Avocado	201 g
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 322	Calories from fat 247
<small>% Daily Value*</small>	
<b>Total Fat</b> 28g	45%
Saturated Fat 4g	21%
Trans Fat 0g	
<b>Cholesterol</b> 0g	0%
<b>Sodium</b> 14mg	1%
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 17g	6%
Dietary Fiber 13g	54%
Sugars 1g	
<b>Protein</b> 4g	
Vitamin A	
Vitamin C	
Calcium	
	6%

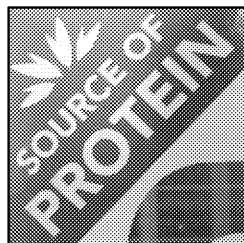
The average adult male would need to eat 2 avocados to get the total calories for an average woman.

## Research

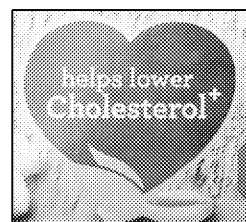
Look up information on nutritional labelling at [zzed.uk/8228-food-labelling](http://zzed.uk/8228-food-labelling)

## Nutrition and health claims

Although it is not mandatory to include nutrition and health claims on a food pack, manufacturers often include them to increase the attractiveness of the product.



**Nutrition claims** are statements which refer to the content of a specific nutrient in the given food product, e.g. 'source of omega-3 fatty acids' or 'high-calcium'.



**Health claims** are statements which directly indicate the relationship between the product and health. Health claims have to be based on scientific evidence and approved by the European Commission. An example is 'Cholesterol reduction through production of hydrochloric acid in the stomach'.

## Apply

1. Take a look at the nutritional information for a tin of garden peas and list the amount of protein for half a tin and the % RI for half a tin.
2. Find out how many calories there are in a biscuit, e.g. a digestive, and how many calories an average adult male needs per day.
3. Look at the nutritional information on an average-sized packet (35.4 g) of salted crisps and work out how much salt is in the packet. What % RI is this for an average adult male?

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## Check your understanding: Buy

- Which of the following statements is CORRECT about mandatory information labels?
  - It is compulsory and required by EU food legislation.
  - It is at the manufacturer's discretion whether to display it or not.
  - It refers to marketing and advertising and is used to tempt consumers.
  - It refers to serving suggestions displayed on food products.
- Nutrition information is displayed as the amount of each nutrient per:
  - 50 g or 50 ml ☐
  - 100 g or 100 ml ☐
  - 100 g or 100 ml ☐
  - 100 g or 100 ml ☐
- Which of the following statements serves as a reminder about storage?
  - First out, first in ☐
  - First in, first out ☐
  - First in, last out ☐
  - First is best ☐
- Which of the following statements is TRUE?
  - 'Best before' dates are dates at which the quality of food is affected.
  - 'Best before' dates refer to the safety of food, rather than the quality.
  - 'Use by' dates refer to the quality of food, rather than the safety.
  - Food is still safe to eat after the 'use by' date.
- Explain the difference between nutrition claims and health claims. Give an example of each.

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- Explain how you would advise a consumer to plan their diet using the amounts of carbohydrates, protein, fat and calories.

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## Storing food

Correct storage of food can help to prevent spoilage, bacterial contamination and **non-allergens** and **allergens**. Spoilage refers to decay and decomposition of food or is in the process of decaying may lose some or all of its nutritional value and no

### Did you know?

An allergen is a substance, e.g. an ingredient in food such as nuts, dairy or sulphites, which can cause an allergic reaction in susceptible individuals.



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The points to remember for storage are:

Keep storage areas clean	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep food covered	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep food stored at the correct temperatures (dry goods stored between 10 °C and 25 °C)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep food stored off the floor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep storage areas dry and free from mould	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure drainage channels run away from food	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure the storage area is lit sufficiently so that damage, signs of <b>pests</b> or spoilage can be seen on food	<input type="checkbox"/>

Food premises should have the following types of storage areas:

- **Dry food areas**
- Refrigerator and **cold store**
- Freezers – check fridge and freezer **temperatures** regularly

When storing food, you must also follow the following:

- Air **circulate** between items stored on shelves
- Correct **containers** are used
- Stock is rotated (**stock rotation**) properly (**First in, First out**)
- Raw food is kept on the bottom shelves
- Warm food is not put in the refrigerator or **cold store**
- Food is not stored in open tin cans
- Vegetables with soil on, such as potatoes, are stored away from other food in a dark, dry area of the storeroom

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## Temperature control

Temperature control is necessary for cooked foods such as ready-to-eat foods (H) through the **DANGER ZONE** temperatures of between 5 °C and 63 °C and will not that will slow down or kill bacteria.

### Cooked food should be eaten within:

- two hours – hot food
- four hours – cold food

After this time, the food should be disposed of and not eaten. Food can only be

Acidic conditions, i.e. below a pH of 4.5, help to inhibit growth of **pathogenic** need to be subject to temperature control due to their acidic nature, or thanks to UHT products.

- However, some foods with a higher pH are subject to temperature control accordingly.
- It is important to remember that some types of pathogenic bacteria can produce spores which act as a protective barrier.
- Some pathogenic bacteria also produce toxins which cannot be destroyed

During the ripening process, cheese exhibits a low **pH** (acidic) and this helps to prevent growing. However, once cheese has ripened, it should be kept in chilled storage because acidity drops, allowing growth of bacteria. Bacteria cannot grow in temperatures above temperatures below 5 °C. This is why it is important to check the temperature of cool

- ✓ Cooked meat should be at least 75 °C in the centre or the thickest part of
- ✓ Beef steaks and other cuts of whole beef and lamb (only whole cuts and not rare and bloody IF the outside has been properly cooked or sealed to kill b
- ✗ Sausages, burgers, pork and poultry should **NOT** be served or eaten rare or the way through the meat and not just on the outside.

Gravy, sauces and soups should be **simmering** to ensure they are cooked. Cooked when it cools down below 63 °C and chilled food is in the **danger zone** when the

**Combining** hot and cold food together, such as a hot sauce over cold food can food, either warming it up or cooling it down.

Remember that some foods are not only high-risk foods due to the risk of **pathogen** potential **allergens** to some people. Remember – allergens can kill, even in small

Temperatures to remember:

<b>Hot food</b>	minimum 63 °C but preferably at least 75 °C in the (beef)
<b>Cold food</b>	should be kept at 5 °C or less (chilled food preferably)
<b>Reheating food</b>	minimum 75 °C but preferably at least 82 °C
<b>Cooling food</b>	10 °C or lower within 90 minutes
<b>Freezing</b>	-18 °C
<b>Thawing temperature</b>	between 0 °C and 8 °C
<b>Delivered chilled food</b>	should be at a temperature of 8 °C or lower, and for should be at -18 °C or lower

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## Temperatures and the DANGER ZONE

Microorganisms multiply the fastest at temperatures between five degrees centigrade (5 °C) and 63 °C. This is important, as ensuring correct temperatures during storage and cooking is essential for the shelf life of foods.

Danger zone	Human body temperature	Cooking	
5 °C – 63 °C	37 °C	at least 75 °C	at least 75 °C recommended

If reheating food to 82 °C will adversely affect the food, then cooking at temperature for two minutes should be sufficient to kill bacteria.

Temperature control is important for most high protein food, such as chicken. Most high-risk food is high in protein and high in moisture.



### Did you know?

Food can only be reheated once.



### Did you know?

Cooked hot food prior to serving should be held at temperatures of at least 63 °C.

## Ambient storage

**Ambient storage** refers to food stored in sealed containers at room temperature. Ambient temperature is referred to as *shelf-stable food* and this usually has a long shelf life (due to various preservation processes and packaging used). To make food shelf-stable and able to withstand **ambient temperatures** it must undergo various processes, such as dehydration, desiccation, or the use of chemical preservatives, or be subjected to very high temperatures (sterilisation).

## Refrigeration and freezing

It is important that the temperature of a fridge does not rise above 5 °C. Refrigerator temperature should be regularly checked and if it exceeds the required temperature, your supervisor must be informed, as the food may need to be disposed of and not eaten. To maintain the temperature of a refrigerator, ensure that:

- it is not overstocked
- the refrigerator door is not opened too frequently or for too long
- warm food is not stored in the refrigerator

Although the temperature of a refrigerator should be regularly checked, it is not necessary to check the temperature of the food stored in the refrigerator.

**DA**

According to legal regulations, chilled food should be stored below 5 °C.

### Research

To find out more about food safety, temperatures and storage visit the Government Food Safety Agency website using the redirect URL [zzed.uk/8228-food.gov](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-safety-temperature-control)

## Cooling food

To prevent the temperature from rising above 5 °C, hot or warm food should never be placed in the refrigerator. Instead, it should be cooled as quickly as possible through placing in a large shallow container and stirring to distribute heat.

Because hot food goes through the **danger zone** when it cools down, ensure that it is cooled for at least 90 minutes to cool down.

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To help the cooling process:

- transfer the food to a larger dish
- stir frequently
- use a **blast chiller**
- divide it into smaller pieces
- place the container with the food in cold water
- store it in a cold store or larder

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### Defrosting

Frozen food should be defrosted in a chilled area, refrigerator or **cold room** before cooking. When chicken defrosts and thaws, liquid/juices will be released. It is important that defrosted food is placed on the **BOTTOM** shelf to avoid juices dripping onto other food items. Some food items should be defrosted in another container to contain the juices. Most microwaves have a defrost function but should only be used to defrost food items that will be cooked immediately, otherwise defrost slowly in a cold room. Meat should be eaten within 24 hours of thawing.

Although you should never refreeze raw meat, fish or poultry that has been defrosted, you can refreeze it if it has been cooked first.

### Refrigeration and freezing

Frozen food must be kept at  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  or lower and thawed following the manufacturer's instructions. **Freezing** at these temperatures slows down the growth of **pathogenic bacteria** and helps prevent spoilage bacteria from causing decay. Once thawed, **HIGH-RISK** food should be cooked at the required temperatures.

Frozen food goes through the **danger zone** when it thaws, so it is important that it does not remain frozen as the outside of the food thaws. Some large items of frozen food may take a long time to thaw slowly over time at room temperature.

Appliance	Temperature
Refrigerators	$5^{\circ}\text{C}$ or below. Most caterers set their fridge to lower than $5^{\circ}\text{C}$ to avoid food being affected by leaving the fridge door open.
Freezers	$-18^{\circ}\text{C}$ or below
<b>Note:</b> The temperature of appliances should be checked regularly. If temperatures are not at the recommended figures, then your supervisor must be informed. Food may be eaten if it has been cooked to the required temperature of and not eaten.	

### Covering food

Correctly storing food is key to ensuring its safety. If raw or cooked food is not packaged, it is best to store it in a lidded box or covered, e.g. with cling film. Covering food is important as it:

- protects the food in question from other foods from contacting each other (so different meats cross-contamination)
- prevents raw meat juice from dripping onto other foods – this applies especially to raw meat
- protects the food from oxygen and prevents oxidation
- prevents the food from taking the smell of other products stored in the same area

### Did you know?

Freezing food at the recommended temperature of  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  does not guarantee that bacteria are killed, although at  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  bacteria go/remain dormant. Bacteria may still be present if there is enough warmth, moisture or food, or a combination of these elements, bacteria start to grow again.

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## Check your understanding: Storage

1. Which of the following statements about ambient storage is TRUE?
  - a. It is at freezing temperature. ☐
  - b. It is at boiling temperature. ☐
  - c. It is at room temperature. ☐
  - d. It is at human body temperature. ☐
2. To which of the following temperatures should a freezer be set?
  - a.  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  ☐
  - b.  $5^{\circ}\text{C}$  ☐
  - c.  $-12^{\circ}\text{C}$  ☐
3. HOT cooked food should be eaten within:
  - a. 2 hours ☐
  - b. 1 hour ☐
  - c. 4 hours ☐
4. Describe two ways in which appropriate packaging supports food safety of food.



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6. Explain why temperature control is important when storing and cooking food.



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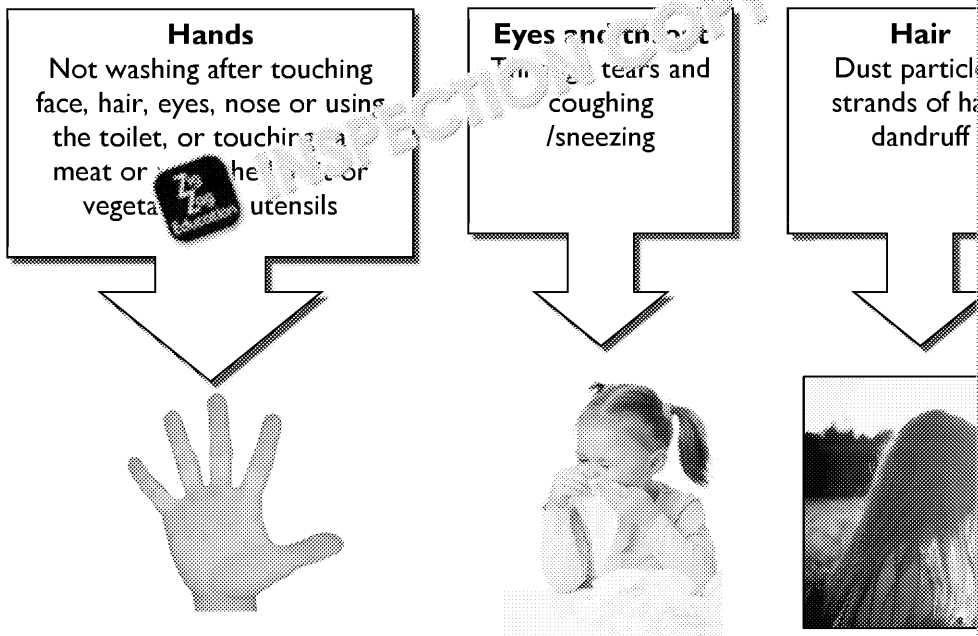


## Preparing, cooking and serving


Pathogenic bacteria which find their way into food can cause food spoilage (increased poisoning (in direct and indirect way). It is very important to distinguish high-risk microorganisms they can contain, and take appropriate steps when preparing, serving and storing food to prevent the negative effect of these microorganisms on food and human health.

### Bacterial contamination

Bacteria can be transferred from people to food in the following ways:



Other ways in which bacteria can be transferred are shown in the table below:

Animals	Dust	Water	Soil
<p>Animals can carry bacteria in their saliva, their urine and in their hair/fur. This includes domestic pets as well as mice, rats and cockroaches and other pests. Animals can transfer bacteria to food in the following ways: mice leaving traces of urine after running around food, flies vomit on food and alight on food after visiting bins, food waste and excrement.</p> 	<p>Bacteria can exist within tiny particles of dust which fall off humans or animals as dead skin cells or from hair or clothes. Dust contains food, moisture and bacteria which we may not be able to see when it settles on food.</p>	<p>Untreated water can also contain <b>pathogenic bacteria</b>, and some foods, such as shellfish, which feed by filtering water, can become contaminated by dirty water.</p>	<p>Soil also contains <b>pathogenic bacteria</b> and these can be present in the soil on unwashed fruit or vegetables or on grains such as rice and pulses.</p>

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## Sources of contamination

Contamination may occur in the following ways:

- from unwashed fruit or vegetables – soil and dirt
  - from raw food – cross-contamination occurs when raw food is stored with high-risk food or when juices or fluids from raw food drop onto high-risk food
- Cross-contamination also occurs via hands or utensils if they touch raw food.

Bacteria can live on hands, work surfaces, containers, cutlery, utensils and equipment, and towels and cleaning cloths.

When food spoils, it is decaying or decomposing, and this can occur through natural ageing or through microbial contamination with bacteria, mould or yeast. Spoilage can be slowed down by preserving food and handling food properly and storing it at the correct temperature. Any member of staff who handles food, utensils, work surfaces, equipment, etc. must practise good personal hygiene and keep their hands clean.

## Types of bacterial food poisoning

Food poisoning is caused by contamination of food or water with various species of bacteria under different living conditions, and for that reason we can usually guess what type of food poisoning if we know what a person has eaten. Types of food poisoning bacteria are listed below.

Type	Cause
<i>Salmonella</i>	Raw or undercooked poultry, eggs, dairy products, raw beansprouts
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Undercooked or badly stored meat, not chilling sufficiently, eating foods handled by someone infected with <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
<i>Listeria</i>	Ready-to-eat foods and also soft cheeses
<i>Campylobacter</i>	Raw or undercooked meat (particularly chicken), unpasteurised milk, untreated water
<i>E. coli</i>	Undercooked meat (beef), unpasteurised milk, raw beansprouts
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Undercooked beef and poultry
<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Rice and other leftover foods left to cool at room temperature

Food poisoning is most likely to be caused by bacterial contamination from untreated water and the following raw or undercooked foods:

- Meat (particularly *E. coli* – beef)
- Poultry (particularly *Campylobacter*)
- Eggs (particularly *Salmonella*)
- Seafood
- Vegetables
- Unpasteurised milk (particularly *E. coli* and *Campylobacter*)
- Ready-to-eat foods (particularly *Listeria*)
- Raw sprouted seeds (e.g. beansprouts)
- Cooked rice left to stand at room temperature

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Bacterial contamination can occur through the following:

- Not storing, cooking or chilling food properly
- Allowing cooked food to cool down gradually and go through the **danger zone**
- Not reheating food at correct temperatures to kill bacteria
- Food being touched or handled by someone who is unwell or does not practice good hygiene
- Allowing food to go past its 'use by' dates
- Cross-contamination between cooked and raw food (e.g. fluid from raw meat)

### Rice and reheating

**Spores** containing the bacterium *Bacillus cereus* exist on rice and can cause food poisoning. When left to cool at room temperature, the **spores** multiply and produce toxins. Ideally, leftover cooked rice should not be allowed to cool or be reheated but, if necessary, it should be refrigerated and then reheated until piping hot.

### Symptoms of bacterial food poisoning

Food poisoning can be caused when bacteria grow in large numbers in food, or by viruses transferred from people or animals, or by toxic moulds. Food poisoning can also be caused by poisonous plants and fish or from contamination from chemicals or metals. The symptoms of food poisoning are:

- vomiting
- diarrhoea
- stomach ache and stomach cramps
- high temperature and fever
- aching muscles, chills and weakness

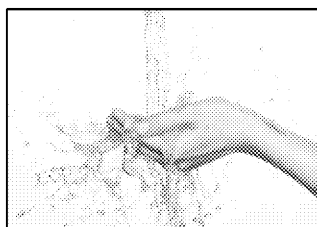


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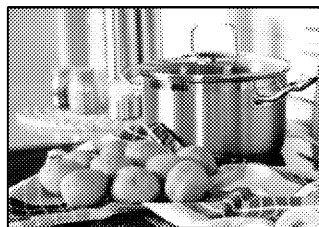
### The four 'C's

The Food Standards Agency advise that food-borne illness / food poisoning can be prevented by following the four 'C's of food hygiene: Cleaning, Cooking, Chilling and avoiding Cross-contamination. We will discuss these in the next section.

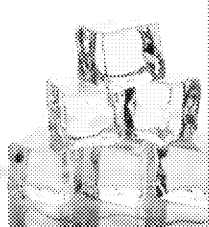
#### The Four Cs



**Cleaning hands properly**



**Cooking food properly**



**Chilling food properly**

### Research

Look up food poisoning on the Government's Food Standards Agency website using the redirect URL [zzed.uk/8228-food-poisoning-2](https://www.food.gov.uk/8228-food-poisoning-2)

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### Things to think about (3.6)

What is the cause of food poisoning (*E. coli* and *Salmonella*) from raw meat and how can it be prevented?

## Food safety

Food safety is about making sure that food is safe to eat. This means making sure that food is clean, that food handlers follow effective **personal hygiene** procedures, that food is stored correctly, that it is eaten within its 'use by' date, that it is cooked or reheated using the correct method, that it is chilled, thawed or frozen correctly.

To make sure that food is safe to eat, we must make sure that we use the correct procedures and understand the importance of **personal hygiene**.

Unsafe food handling can result in illness or death caused by the following:

- food poisoning
- chemical and physical contamination
- food spoilage
- allergic responses and/or anaphylactic shock

The consequences of poor food hygiene could be:

- compensation claims from customers
- pests – rats, mice, insects, birds, etc.
- food poisoning / fatalities
- food contamination and wastage
- legal action and closure
- bad publicity on review sites and social media
- loss of profits leading to redundancies

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Environmental health officers (EHOs) have the right of entry and the power to prosecute if necessary. An EHO can sample and examine food, examine records and serve notices.

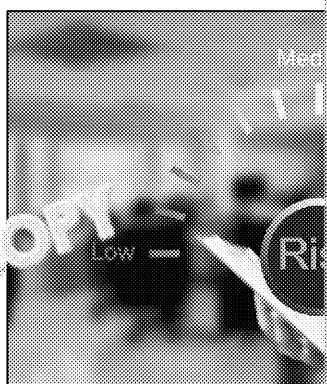
## Reporting sickness

To prevent food poisoning or bacterial contamination of food, it is important that you report any illness to your supervisor. It is a legal requirement to report certain illnesses to the health authorities. Your supervisor and management need to be kept informed by their staff.

You must report the following to your supervisor:

- diarrhoea
- vomiting
- sickness and nausea
- ear, eye, nose discharge
- a septic cut, wound or other skin condition
- any other skin condition or infection

You must also tell your supervisor if anyone who lives with you has any of the above symptoms, as you may be responsible for their health.



*You have a responsibility to maintain food safety.*

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### Things to think about (3.7)

Why are pregnant women at risk from food poisoning?

## Personal hygiene

Bacteria can live on hands, **work surfaces**, containers, cutlery, utensils and equipment.

Any member of staff who handles food, utensils, **work surfaces**, equipment, etc. must practice **hygiene** and keep their hands clean. This means washing your hands:

- before you start work
- before you touch **high-risk** food
- between handling raw food and cooked food, e.g. peeling potatoes and tomatoes
- after handling raw food
- after going to the toilet
- after touching any part of your face, body or hair
- after coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose or wiping your eyes
- before and after eating and drinking
- after handling raw eggs in shell
- after performing cleaning jobs or handling containers or chemicals
- after handling food waste or rubbish

The hand-washing basin should be used exclusively for hand washing and not be used for anything else. There should be liquid soap, hot water and paper (disposable) towels available.

Outdoor clothes are a contamination risk as they can transfer dust, soil and dirt. Remember: hair, dust and soil can carry bacteria.

Ideally, to prevent contamination from outdoor clothes, light-coloured protective clothing should be worn in the food handling area (light-coloured so any spillages or marks can be seen). A change room should be available for changing from outdoor clothes into protective clothes. Hair should be covered with a hat.

### What you wear:

To ensure that you do not drop fibres, hair or other foreign objects into food, wear protective clothing or an apron and tie your hair back (if your hair is too short to be tied back, use an Alice band) or use a hairnet or cap to keep your hair in place. Remove jewellery – gemstones from earrings could fall out and land in food, and rings harbour bacteria. Do not wear nail varnish or false nails, and keep nails short and clean.

### Cuts, boils and rashes:

If you cut yourself, place a brightly coloured waterproof sticking plaster over the cut. Do not work with cuts, rashes or boils.

### Hand washing:

Wash your hands before and after handling food. There should be washing facilities provided, with hot and cold water, liquid soap and paper towels. This sink should be used exclusively for hand washing and not be used for washing dishes or vegetables.

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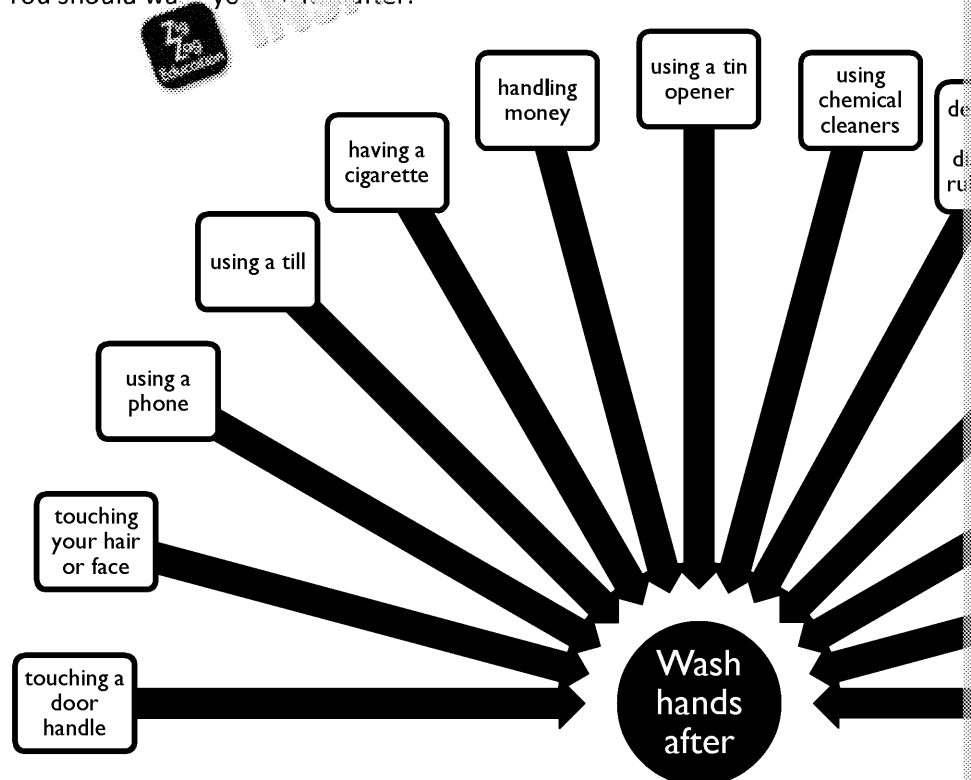




## Food handling area – dos and don'ts

Do not			
✗	blow your nose, sneeze or cough over food or in the food handling area	✓	go outside the food handling area to blow your nose
✗	touch any part of your body or face, particularly your nose or mouth and do not scratch your head or touch your hair	✓	wash your hands after touching your face
✗	use your finger to taste food – ensure that clean spoons are used for testing purposes	✓	take your breaks in a designated area
✗	use a tissue in a food handling area or wipe your nose on your sleeve	✓	wash your hands after using tissues
✗	breathe on glassware to polish it	✓	wash your hands after touching any part of your body

You should wash your hands after:



Smokers should remove their protective clothing or apron before smoking and also ensure that cigarettes cannot be transferred to food.

Hands should also be washed after doing the following:

- touching work surfaces which have not been cleaned properly
- eating or drinking
- handling raw eggs in their shells

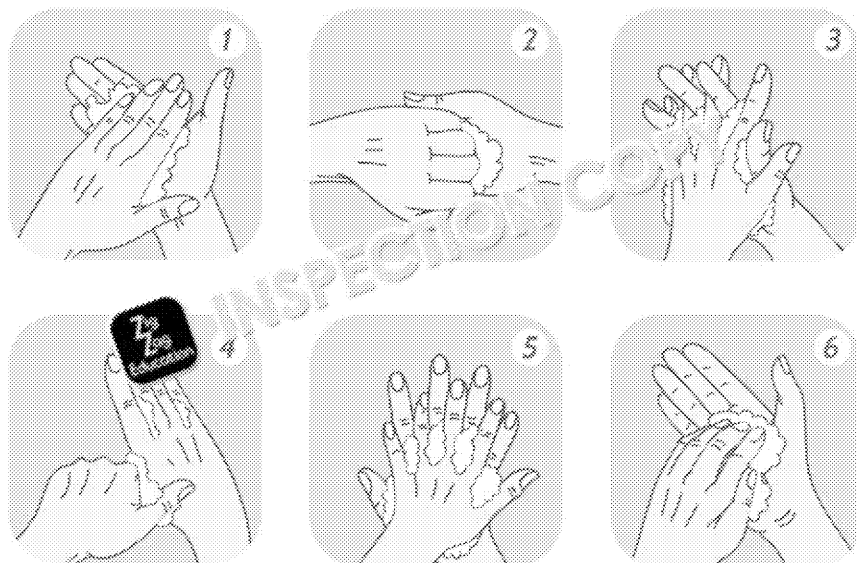
**Remember:** Wash your hands thoroughly when you start work and before touching any food. You must wash your hands between touching high-risk food and raw food.

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## Correct hand-washing technique

Wet hands thoroughly and add a blob of liquid soap (more hygienic than a bar of soap). Rub over backs of hands, rub between fingers and thumb, rub across your nails. Rinse and dry with a disposable paper towel (ensure your hands are totally dry in the environment on which to grow). Turn off the tap using the paper towel and the



## Cross-contamination

### Using separate utensils

Equipment and utensils such as knives and chopping boards should be colour-coded to prevent cross-contamination. For example, only use a chopping board and knives that are colour-coded green for salads and fruit. This helps to prevent bacteria being transferred from raw

Colour-code chopping boards and utensils	
RAW MEAT	Red
RAW FISH	Blue
COOKED MEAT	Yellow
SALADS/FRUIT	Green
VEGETABLES	Brown
DAIRY	White

Colour-coding chopping boards and utensils helps to prevent cross-contamination

Ensuring that equipment and surfaces are kept clean and free from damage will help to prevent cross-contamination.

Clean utensils for chopping raw meat to prevent bacteria transferring from the meat to the board or work surface and utensils. This helps to prevent cross-contamination with ready-to-eat foods.

It is important that raw foods and high-risk foods are stored separately so that cross-contamination is prevented. For example, do not place raw meat on a shelf above other food, especially high-risk foods, as they could drip onto the items stored on shelves below.

Keep stored food covered.

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Chicken and poultry should never be washed before cooking as water droplets from the water can spread bacteria onto work surfaces, utensils or food.

## Skills

1. Demonstrate knife skills to prevent cross-contamination.
2. Demonstrate washing and drying fruit and vegetables to prevent food poisoning.
3. Prepare, combine and shape wet mixtures (e.g. falafel, fish cakes, meatballs) to prevent cross-contamination and correct handling of high-risk foods.

## Separating raw and cooked foods

To prevent **cross-contamination**, raw foods such as uncooked meat (e.g. chicken) should not be prepared or stored with cooked foods (e.g. **high-risk** foods such as cooked meat rolls).

Other ways to prevent cross-contamination:

- Keep surfaces covered
- Keep surfaces covered and empty them when required
- Store food safely
- Check for damaged packaging on deliveries
- Keep doors and window screens closed to prevent **pests**
- Clean work surfaces regularly
- Clean up spillages and dispose of food waste promptly

It is important to check for pests regularly.

## Checking temperatures

It is important that temperatures of freezers and fridges are checked daily. **Temperature probes** should be positioned on the outside casing of appliances, such as ovens, refrigerators, so that temperatures can be seen and recorded easily.

It is also important that **temperature probes** are used to record the temperature **centre (or thickest part)** of meat to at least 75 °C or 82 °C if reheated. Temperature should be recorded. You can also check the temperature of food on the oven gauge if it is being cooked.

**Temperature probes** should be calibrated on a regular basis and cleaned after each use.

Other ways to test food for readiness and/or to ensure it is safe to eat:

- With a knife/skewer
- Finger or poke test
- Taking a bite
- Visual checking

## Think and Talk about (3.8)

Discuss how cross-contamination can occur between different food items.

## Skills

1. Use a temperature probe (to ensure food is safe to eat).

## Skills

1. Use a knife/skewer, bite, sound or poke test to test the readiness of food (to ensure food is safe to eat).

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## Using correct cooking times

We have looked at the correct temperatures at which to cook and reheat food, but time is also vitally important to food safety, especially when cooking red meat and poultry. Food must reach at least 70 °C for a minimum of two minutes.

Although some foods are safe to be blanched briefly, most foods must be cooked for the recommended cooking times to ensure safety.

Lower cooking temperatures can be used so long as the food is cooked for the recommended duration at the temperature. The core temperature of food should be kept at the following levels:

Temperature	Duration
70 °C	At least 10 minutes
75 °C	At least 2 minutes

Leave food to stand for a minute after cooking as the temperature will either stay at or rise above the recommended temperature, thereby killing any bacteria.

## Cleaning

It is important that food handling areas are kept clean to ensure that **cross-contamination** is avoided. Surfaces should be cleaned frequently by removing food debris and then disinfected.

**Work surfaces** and equipment include:

- Chopping boards
- Preparation areas
- Tables
- Machinery
- Utensils
- Containers

### Skills

1. Use a brush to clean surfaces (ensuring cleanlines)

Worktops should be smooth and non-porous, and wood should be avoided unless fully washable.

Disinfection should be performed after cleaning (remove debris and dirt and grease first) and for the correct contact time (as stated on the manufacturers' instructions).

- Detergents dissolve grease and loosen debris – detergents do NOT kill bacteria.
- Hot water at 82 °C or above, such as the high temperatures in dishwashers, may kill some bacteria, but not all.
- Steam can also be used to kill some bacteria.
- Sanitisers are a combination of disinfectant and detergent *but should only be used for lightly soiled areas*.
- Chemical disinfectant (e.g. bleach) is required to KILL bacteria.

In order to disinfect correctly, the surface must be clean.

## Did you know?

Cleaning cloths should be changed after wiping a surface that has been used for meat and also after wiping up spills (e.g. raw egg or soil from root vegetables).

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## Cleaning schedules

Food premises should have a cleaning schedule in place which will detail the following:

- What to clean
- How often it should be cleaned
- Type of cleaning required
- Who is responsible for cleaning

### Clean, clean, clean...

- ✓ All areas in a food handling area should be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Special care should be taken on surfaces where raw food or high-risk foods are placed. Work surfaces must be cleaned between using them for raw food.
- ✓ Temperature probes should be cleaned after each use.
- ✓ Items that are regularly touched should be cleaned, such as handles and switches, cleaned after each use for different food.
- ✓ Mops and cloths need to be kept dry to prevent multiplication of bacteria. They should be stored away from food.
- ✓ Bins should be emptied regularly and kept covered, away from food. Outside bins should be kept covered with tightly fitting lids so as not to attract flies.

### The correct way to clean

Some food premises use a two-sink method when washing dishes. This enables the food to be rinsed in a first sink with cold water to remove debris and to clean dirt and then rinse in a second sink with hot water at 82 °C. The procedure below:

- Remove food debris from soiled areas or from pots and pans and crockery.
- Wipe the area or wash with hot water and detergent to remove dirt and grease.
- Rinse the area or rinse items with hot water to remove traces of detergent.
- Disinfect the area or items using a chemical cleaner for the prescribed contact time.
- Use a final rinse of clean hot water.
- Avoid using cloths to dry dishes as they may harbour bacteria. If hot water is used for the final rinse, then the moisture will evaporate if left to dry in the air.

### Taking care

Take care when cleaning and take the following precautions:

- Keep food covered or well away from areas that are being cleaned to prevent contamination.
- Wear protective clothing, gloves, masks and goggles if necessary.
- Do not mix cleaning agents together – this is **DANGEROUS**.
- Store chemical cleaners, cloths and mops away from food.
- Always wash your hands after cleaning and before you touch food.



Breathing vapours from some detergents can irritate the respiratory system.

Chemical cleaners can be a source of skin irritation.

Chemical cleaners or vapours can irritate the eyes.

Chemical cleaners (such as bleach) can ruin clothing.

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### Research

To find out more about cleaning schedules go to the Government's Food Standards Agency website using the redirect URL [zzed.uk/8228-food.gov](https://www.zzed.uk/8228-food.gov)



## Check your understanding

### Preparing, cooking and serving

- Which of the following statements about how bacteria are transferred are correct?  
a. Mice and rats can transfer bacteria to food. ☐ b. Domestic pets can transfer bacteria to food. ☐  
c. Bacteria can exist in dust particles. ☐ d. Bacteria can be transferred from one person to another. ☐
- Which of the following DON'T you need to tell your supervisor about?  
a. Vomiting ☐ b. Diarrhoea ☐  
c. Sickness ☐ d. Toothache ☐
- Why should light-coloured clothes be worn in the kitchen?  
a. They look nicer ☐ b. So that the public can tell if you are clean ☐  
c. To see spillages and marks ☐ d. So that the restaurant's reputation is not damaged ☐
- Which of the following DON'T you need to use separate utensils?  
a. Between preparing fruit and salad ☐ b. Between preparing meat and vegetables ☐  
c. Between handling raw fish and eggs ☐ d. Between handling bread and pastries ☐
- The four Cs represent which of the following?  
a. Cleaning, Cooking, Chilling, Cross-contamination  
b. Cleaning, Cooking, Containing, Cross-contamination  
c. Cleaning, Cooking, Cold-storing, Cross-contamination  
d. Cleaning, Cooking, Chilling, Cross-transferring
- Identify two preservation methods and describe how each can help to prevent contamination and food spoilage.  
Method 1 .....  
.....  
Method 2 .....  
.....
- Explain why correct cooking times are important when preparing, cooking and serving food.  
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## Quiz-ine

Fill in the answers to the questions below to reveal a phrase relevant to food science (black squares are spaces between words).

1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13												

1. Type of mould used in the production of blue cheese (11)
2. Dangerous toxin produced by certain mould types (9)
3. Range of temperatures at which microorganisms grow the fastest (6, 4)
4. Date mark which applies to food quality (4, 6)
5. One of the symptoms of food poisoning (9)
6. Protein-based catalyst which speeds up chemical reactions (6)
7. Ready-to-eat foods are referred to as this (4-4)
8. When a food takes the smell of another food product (8)
9. \_\_\_ sprays often kill 99.9% of bacteria (13)
10. Single-celled fungus used in the production of soy sauce and cider (5)
11. Room temperature is also referred to as this (4)
12. The 'bad' bacteria which cause food poisoning and poisoning (9)
13. The type of bacteria commonly associated with eggs (10)

The shaded field reveals this word:

\_\_\_\_\_

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# Answers

## Chapter 1 – Food science

### Why and how the food is cooked

#### Things to think about (1.1)

Examples could include deep-fried foods, such as chips, which are high in fats. To digest fat has to be produced in the gall bladder, and that puts extra strain on the liver. Modified frying so that the surface of the food is sealed and the food doesn't soak up as much fat. Also, raw vegetables might be difficult to digest for some people due to high insoluble fibre. Best to steam or boil them to break down some fibre and improve digestion.

#### Things to think about (1.2)

- Students should note that foods which are frozen usually have longer date marks than raw fish and fish salad. Students should also note that highly processed, sterilised products are labelled with a 'best before' date mark rather than a 'use by' mark.
- Students should reach a conclusion that a 'use by' date mark is used on fresh, easily perishable products, while a 'best before' date mark is used on foods which are preserved in a way that protects them from external factors and significantly extends their shelf life.

#### Things to think about (1.3)

Examples could include:

	Advantages	
<b>Boiling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low-calorie</li> <li>No added fat</li> <li>Quick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vitamins disappear when draining</li> <li>Loss of colour</li> </ul>
<b>Steaming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserves the nutritional value of food</li> <li>Low-fat</li> <li>Food becomes tender</li> <li>Hard to overcook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't be used for tough meats like pork, as it won't cook</li> </ul>
<b>Simmering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops the flavours</li> <li>Helps to obtain a desirable texture</li> <li>Helps to cook the food evenly throughout</li> <li>Helps to obtain the desired texture, e.g. by evaporating water the food becomes thicker</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Can cause vitamins to be lost</li> </ul>
<b>Blanching</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps to preserve the nutritional value and colour of the food</li> <li>Quick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The food doesn't become as tender as other methods, remains hard</li> </ul>
<b>Poaching</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good for preparing delicate ingredients</li> <li>Helps to preserve the texture of the food</li> <li>Food remains juicy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't be used for tough meats, for instance, as it won't cook</li> <li>Vitamins can be lost when drained</li> </ul>
<b>Braising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seals the surface so the food remains juicy</li> <li>Improves the texture of the food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Causes vitamins to be lost and long cooking times</li> </ul>
<b>Baking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates an appetising crust/surface</li> <li>Develops flavour through dextrinisation and caramelisation</li> <li>Improves palatability of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Food may be cooked too high or too low</li> <li>The long cooking times at high temperatures can cause vitamins to be lost</li> </ul>
<b>Roasting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates an appetising crust/surface</li> <li>Helps to lower the calorific value of food as fat melts and leaks out of it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Causes vitamins to be lost and long cooking times</li> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Can increase the amount of extra fat is added</li> </ul>
<b>Grilling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually quick</li> <li>Usually low-fat</li> <li>Helps to preserve the nutritional value of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May create a hard crust on the very high temperatures</li> </ul>

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	Advantages	
<b>Dry-frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Very quick</li> <li>– Helps to preserve the nutritional value of food</li> <li>– Helps to lower the calorific value of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Very high temperatures can burn very quickly</li> </ul>
<b>Shallow-frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Creates a crunchy crust</li> <li>– Helps to obtain an appetising colour</li> <li>– Seals the surface so the food remains juicy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increases calorie content</li> <li>– High temperatures can burn very quickly</li> </ul>
<b>Stir-frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Very quick</li> <li>– Helps to preserve the nutritional value of food</li> <li>– Low-fat</li> <li>– The food remains crunchy</li> <li>– The colour of food (e.g. broccoli) is usually preserved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Can't be used for large pieces of food, e.g. pork, as they will not cook through</li> </ul>
<b>Deep-frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Very quick</li> <li>– Provides an attractive golden brown colour</li> <li>– Helps to create a crunchy/crispy texture</li> <li>– Seals the surface quickly so the food remains juicy</li> <li>– Cheap</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Very high temperatures can burn very quickly</li> <li>– High temperatures can destroy some harmful substances</li> <li>– Not suitable for large pieces of food, e.g. pork, as they will not cook through</li> <li>– Fat will spit and cause burns</li> <li>– Drastically increases the calorie content of food as the fat is absorbed</li> <li>– Their chemical structure can be changed</li> <li>– Greatly increases the calorific value of food</li> </ul>

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** A, **Q2:** D (1 mark for each, max. 2 marks)

**Q3:** Any three from: (max. 3 marks)

- To make food safe to eat
- To prevent bacterial contamination
- To improve/aid digestion
- To improve the texture
- To improve the taste
- To improve the appearance

**Q4:** 1 mark for each correct (max. 2 marks)

- Radiation (from the heating element in the oven to the baking tin)
- Conduction (from the baking tin to the food inside)

**Q5:** 1 mark for each correct (max. 3 marks)

- Starch gelatinisation
- Water absorption
- Caramelisation

**Q6:** Any four from: (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- During braising, pork is first shallow-fried, and then stewed for a long time
- Frying helps to seal the surface of the meat
- Frying helps to create an attractive brown colour
- Frying helps to keep the meat moist inside
- Stewing helps to soften and tenderise the meat as the protein in it will denature
- Long cooking time and high temperature can cause vitamin loss (especially those sensitive to heat)
- Addition of fat during the process of braising means that the calorific value of the food is increased
- Other suitable arguments may be accepted

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## Carbohydrates

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** B, **Q2:** C, **Q3:** D (1 mark for each, max. 5 marks)

**Q4:** Any three from: (max. 3 marks)

- Sweetening
- Improving flavour of savoury dishes
- Bulking
- Improving texture through aeration
- Extending the shelf life
- Keeping the food moist
- Speeding up fermentation
- Adding colour through caramelisation and the Maillard reaction
- Or any other suitable answer

**Q5:** Any four from: (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- Starch undergoes gelatinisation in the presence of water and heat.
- At 60 °C starch molecules absorb water and swell.
- At 80 °C the starch granules begin to burst open and release starch to the solution.
- The more starch there is in the mixture, the thicker it will become.
- During gelatinisation, the starch forms a net-like structure in which water is trapped.
- If the mixture overcooks, it will become thin again. This is because if the mixture is damaged and the water is released back into the mixture.
- Or any other suitable answer

## Fats and oils

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** B, **Q2:** C, **Q3:** B (1 mark for each, max. 3 marks)

**Q4:** Any two from: (max. 2 marks)

- Whisking
- Beating
- Folding
- Denaturation of protein
- Creaming
- Aeration
- Melting of fat
- Caramelisation of sugar

**Q5:** 2 marks for a correct description (max. 2 marks)

- If a fat only contains single chemical bonds, it will be both solid at room temperature.
- The presence of double chemical bonds in fatty acid chains changes the physical properties. Monounsaturated fats will be liquid at room temperature, but will solidify when cooled. Polyunsaturated fats are always liquid.

**Q6:** 2 marks for a correct description (max. 2 marks)

- Fats (oil in mayonnaise) are hydrophobic and repel water molecules (e.g. from the egg).
- Emulsifiers prevent the mixture from splitting.

**Q7:** 1 mark for each relevant point from: (max. 4 marks)

- In shortening, fat molecules create a hydrophobic layer around starch molecules.
- This prevents gluten in starch from absorbing the water.
- Gluten cannot form long fibres without water.
- Therefore, the pastries are flaky/crunchy/crisp, rather than spongy and elastic.

## Protein

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** D, **Q2:** B, **Q3:** C, **Q4:** B (1 mark for each, max. 4 marks)

**Q5:** 1 mark for each correct function, with or without description (max. 3 marks)

- Glazing – egg wash helps to create a shiny finish on bread rolls and other baked goods.
- Binding – egg acts as a glue in sweet and savoury dishes, such as muffins or meatballs.
- Coating – egg helps the breadcrumbs stick to the food, preventing them falling off during frying.
- Raising agent – whisked egg white traps a lot of air and is used in many sweet bakes, such as soufflé.
- Improving the texture – whisked whole eggs create a foam, which can be used in meringues.

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- Emulsifier – eggs contain lecithin, which is a natural emulsifier; because of the production of emulsion sauces, such as mayonnaise
- Thickener – eggs coagulate in the presence of heat, and, therefore, are used
- Colourant – egg yolks add a yellow shade to batter and other mixtures
- Aeration – egg whites are whisked to create foams/meringues, which are the cake batters and omelettes
- Or any other suitable answer

**Q6:** Any two from: (1 mark each, max. 2 marks)

- Yeast ferments and produces carbon dioxide.
- Gluten forms a net, which traps air bubbles / carbon dioxide.
- Gluten fibres are elastic and can be stretched.
- This allows the dough to rise.

**Q7:** (1 mark each, max. 4 marks):

- Proteins denature when heated.
- Proteins coagulate in the presence of salt or mineral acids.
- In quiche Lorraine, eggs are beaten and poured on top.
- During baking, the proteins in the egg mixture denature and coagulate, thus making the mixture thick/stable / firm.

## Fruit and vegetables

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** B, **Q2:** B, **Q3:** D, **Q4:** D, **Q5:** B (1 mark for each, max. 5 marks)

**Q6:** 2 marks for: (max. 2 marks)

- Enzymatic browning is primarily caused by an enzyme (however, oxygen is needed)
- while oxidation is primarily caused by oxygen (no enzymes are needed for it)

**Q7:** 1 mark for a method, 1 mark for an explanation (max. 6 marks)

- **Method:** covering with cling film or putting into a lidded box to shield from light
- **Why it works:** oxygen speeds up browning because it bonds with the phenols
- **Method:** packaging in modified atmosphere to reduce the amount of oxygen
- **Method:** using proper tools which do not contain copper or iron
- **Why it works:** both of these metals speed up enzymatic browning, so avoid them
- **Method:** use of an acid such as lemon juice or vinegar
- **Why it works:** enzymes are built from protein, so will denature in the presence of acid
- **Method:** lowering the temperature by putting food into the fridge
- **Why it works:** enzymes are built from protein, so will deactivate at low temperature
- **Method:** blanching the food to deactivate enzymes
- **Why it works:** enzymes are built of protein, and will deactivate at high temperature

## Raising agents

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** A, **Q2:** C, **Q3:** D, **Q4:** D (1 mark for each, max. 4 marks)

**Q5:** 1 mark for each function, 1 mark for each example (max. 4 marks)

- Function: leavening agent / adding nutritional value
- Examples: bread / pizza / baked goods
- Function: fermentation to produce alcohol
- Examples: wine/beer/cider
- Function: fermentation to improve flavour/digestibility
- Examples: soy sauce / tempeh / miso

Other suitable answers may be accepted.

**Q6:** 1 mark for method and description (max. 3 marks)

Method	How it works
Whisking	Eggs are whisked with sugar to make meringue or sponge cake; air bubbles are trapped in the mixture.
Beating	Liquids are beaten to make a batter; air bubbles are trapped in the mixture.
Folding	Air is trapped between layers, e.g. in flaky pastry.
Sieving	Air is trapped between starch particles (but also icing sugar particles).
Creaming	Air is trapped between fat and sugar particles in the mixture.
Rubbing in	Rubbing the fat into flour traps the air in the mixture.

Do NOT accept biological or chemical raising agents as answers.

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## Bonus chapter: the most common faults in cooking them

### Check your understanding

Q1: D, Q2: C, Q3: B (1 mark for each, max. 3 marks)

Q4: Any three from: (max. 3 marks)

- Using too much sugar can cause the cake to sink in the middle.
- Using too much flour or cocoa can cause the cake to be tough and dry.
- Adding too much baking powder / bicarbonate of soda can cause the cake to rise too much.
- Adding too little baking powder / bicarbonate of soda can cause the cake to be flat.
- Adding too much sugar can cause the cake to develop a hard, sugary crust.
- Or any other suitable answer.

Q5: Any six from: (1 mark each, max. 6 marks)

- Bread is made with the use of yeast. Yeast consists of tiny, single-celled fungi that use sugar in the dough as food and produce carbon dioxide gas, which causes the dough to rise.
- Not adding sugar to the dough means that the yeast has no food, so cannot rise.
- Using the wrong type of flour (e.g. low-gluten) means that the carbon dioxide gas cannot be trapped properly, and it will make the bread tough.
- Lack of water in the dough means that gluten will not develop, and the dough will be crumbly.
- Using the wrong type of flour, such as gluten-free, means that gluten will not develop, and the bread will be tough (will not develop the open, sponge-like texture).
- Using old yeast can mean that it is not alive any more, so the dough will not rise.
- Using water that is too hot can kill the yeast in the dough, so it will not rise.
- Using water that is too cold will lower the temperature of the dough, and the yeast – the dough will rise very slowly (or not at all).
- Adding too much salt to the dough means that it will compete with sugar for yeast to feed on, which can slow down yeast growth, and that can cause the dough to rise very slowly – or not at all.
- Kneading the dough too vigorously can cause carbon dioxide to escape from the dough, and the bread will become tough.
- Proving the bread for too short a time (or not proving at all) means that the yeast has not had time to multiply and produce a sufficient amount of carbon dioxide, and that will result in a dense, tough loaf.
- Baking the bread for too short a time can cause it to sink and become tough.
- Baking the bread too high up in the oven can cause it to burn on top and be raw.
- Or any other suitable answer.

### Quiz-ine

- |               |                   |                |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Foam       | 5. Gluten         | 9. Antioxidant |
| 2. Shortening | 6. Solanine       | 10. Stirring   |
| 3. Browning   | 7. Denaturation   | 11. Microwaves |
| 4. Thiamine   | 8. Carbon dioxide | 12. Steaming   |

The shaded fields reveal this word: **fermentation**

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## Chapter 2 – Sensory properties

### Sensory evaluation

#### Things to think about (2.1)

Our olfactory system influences our food preferences. Food smells (in the form of tiny molecules) reach the scent receptors in the nose; the olfactory system transmits the signal to the brain and on to the brain. We then react to the smell by finding it appetising or unappetising. The sense of smell can be received by special sensors at the top of the nose. Our sense of smell is affected by a blocked nose affects your sense of taste.

#### Things to think about (2.2)

Controlled conditions are important for taste panels to ensure reliability of the results. Testers should ensure that the tester does not become distracted by smells, appearance or sound, and the food sample.

#### Check your understanding

Q1: B, Q2: A, Q3: B, Q4: B (1 mark for each, max. 4 marks)

Q5: Any three from: (1 mark for indicating the controlled condition and 1 mark for explaining the condition)

- Target group – age, sex, physical activity, lifestyle, potentially vegetarians or vegans, etc. to ensure that various groups of consumers perceive the product and how the product could meet their needs better.
- Aim of the product – to build up muscles, to support healthy body composition, to prevent degenerative diseases, etc.
- General rules for how to set up the taste panel – testers can be both experienced and inexperienced. The sample should be small in volume (not a whole cup, as this might be too much to taste) and explanation how to use it, etc.
- For this product, the taste panel should be consumers of protein drinks who exercise. This is to ensure that the product is assessed by a relevant group, who are likely to buy the product.
- Although gender is not necessarily a criterion for this test, more men than women are likely to be in the age range of 18 to 50.
- As this is a plant-based drink, the taste panel should contain a proportion of vegetarians/vegans. They probably be the likely consumers, although non-vegans may also buy the product.
- Other correct responses may be accepted.

### Chapter 2: Quiz

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Olfaction  | 6. Organoleptic  |
| 2. Umami      | 7. Ranking       |
| 3. Sight      | 8. Hedonic       |
| 4. Triangle   | 9. Preference    |
| 5. Subjective | 10. Star profile |

The shaded fields reveal this words: **taste panel**

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## Chapter 3 – Food safety

### Microorganisms (food spoilage)

#### Things to think about (3.1)

Most at risk are the very young or elderly, people who are already ill or recovering, and any individual whose immune system is weaker is more susceptible to the effects of food poisoning. It can pass from a pregnant woman to an unborn foetus.

#### Things to think about (3.2)

This is human body temperature, which creates ideal conditions for bacteria to grow.

#### Things to think about (3.3)

Some foods, such as grapes and tomatoes, show signs of spoilage before others as they can provide all the conditions necessary for the growth of microorganisms (protein and sugar) and temperature (as they are often stored at room temperature).

#### Check your understanding

Q1: D, Q2: C, Q3: A, Q4: B (1 mark for each, max. 4 marks)

Q5: Any three (1 mark each, max. 3 marks)

- Very low temperatures, such as in freezing, deactivate enzymes, so that enzymes are not active and reactions are not conducted.
- Very low temperatures, such as in freezing, make bacteria dormant and cause them to be inactive and do not multiply.
- Low temperatures, such as in a fridge, slow down the action caused by enzymes so that the action is delayed.
- Low temperatures, such as in a fridge, slow down the growth of bacteria and fungi. In temperatures above 5 °C, growth is faster.
- High temperatures, such as in cooking (above 63 °C) and blanching, deactivate enzymes and denature protein due to high temperatures.
- High temperatures, such as in cooking (above 63 °C), kill most bacteria.
- Very high temperatures, such as in sterilisation (above 100 °C), kill all bacteria. Food is safe at least until it cools down and goes through danger zone again, or until it is consumed.

Q6: 1 mark for each correct statement: (max. 8 marks)

- Microorganisms such as *E. coli* and *Campylobacter jejuni* cause food poisoning.
- Toxic mould present in food or water.
- Pathogenic bacteria can come from raw foods, pests, people, air, dust, dirt and food, moisture, protein and warmth, bacteria can multiply using a process called binary fission.
- Because pathogenic bacteria cannot be seen or smelled in food, it is possible to get food poisoning without realising the potential danger.
- Pathogenic bacteria which cause food poisoning are present in humans and can be passed on to other humans through handling food.
- Dust, dirt and soil contain pathogenic bacteria. This is why it is important to wash hands before handling food.
- Raw food, such as uncooked chicken, contains pathogenic bacteria which can be killed at the correct temperatures will kill bacteria, making the food safe to eat.
- Bacteria are not killed when raw food is frozen. They remain dormant until it is thawed. If the chicken isn't thawed and then cooked at the correct temperatures, it can become a potential food poisoning risk.
- The danger zone for food is between the temperatures of 5 °C and 63 °C. If food is kept in this temperature range then bacteria can start to grow and divide, increasing the risk of food poisoning.
- The optimum conditions for bacteria to grow are warmth, time, moisture and food. If food is kept for long enough at room temperature, it will develop bacteria.
- Cooking food at the correct temperatures can kill pathogenic bacteria. Food may start growing bacteria. In some people this may only cause a slight gas, but in others it may be fatal. The elderly, the very young or those who are ill or recovering from food poisoning due to compromised immune systems. Unborn babies and pregnant women should take care.
- Food poisoning can be caused by storing food incorrectly. Raw food and high temperatures should be stored separately to ensure that cross-contamination does not occur, e.g. raw chicken should be stored in a separate fridge to prevent juices dripping onto other food items.

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- Food poisoning can be caused by pathogenic bacteria from raw food being on surfaces or chopping boards to other foods.
- Food poisoning can be caused by eating cooked rice which has been left to cool.
- Food poisoning can be caused by pathogenic bacteria present in milk and dairy products, cooked meat and poultry, with the biggest risk being when raw and high-risk foods are eaten together.
- Food poisoning can be caused by harmful toxins called mycotoxins which are naturally toxic and some can be used in food production.

## Microorganisms (food production)

### Things to think about (3.4)

There is a wide range of products made with the use of fermentation. These include bread, other baked goods made with the use of yeast (e.g. traditional bread, a brith cake), as well as champagne. Many alcoholic beverages are produced through fermentation, e.g. beer, wine.

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** B, **Q2:** B, **Q3:** B (1 mark for each, max. 3 marks)

**Q4:** Any two from: (1 mark for each, max. 2 marks)

- Bacteria transform the lactose in milk and produce lactic acid.
- Lactic acid lowers the pH of the milk and causes the protein in milk to coagulate.
- Coagulation of milk causes the curds to separate from the whey, which can be removed.

**Q5:** Any four from: (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- Before mincing, the meat is partially frozen to kill potential parasites (*Trichinella*).
- Before mincing, the mincing machine and all utensils used are sterilised to kill bacteria.
- Mincing takes place at low temperatures to slow down the growth of microorganisms.
- Starter cultures of bacteria and moulds are added.
- Bacteria produce lactic acid, which lowers the pH of the sausage and slows down bacterial growth.
- Mould creates a coat on the outside of the sausage and shields it from the air.
- Drying reduces the amount of water in the sausage, so bacterial growth is slowed down.

Other suitable answers may be considered.

## Buying food

### Things to think about (3.5)

Storage rotation is important so that food with a short shelf life is used before food with a longer shelf life. Food should be stored accordingly, with items with a short shelf life stored in front of items with a longer shelf life.

### Check your understanding

**Q1:** A, **Q2:** B, **Q3:** B, **Q4:** A (1 mark for each, max. 4 marks)

**Q5:** 1 mark for definition and 1 mark for example (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- **Nutrition claim** is a statement which refers to the content of an ingredient or the effect of a food on health.
- Examples could include: source of protein, low-fat, contains vitamin C or no artificial colours.
- **Health claim** is a statement which shows the direct link between consumption of a food and health benefits.
- Examples could include: helps to lower blood cholesterol levels, supports skin health, to boost immunity.

**Q6:** Any three from: (2 marks for each, max. 6 marks)

- Advice would be based on an individual's 'resting' and now active they were.
- The Recommended Intake for an average male or female would be used to calculate the individual's requirements for a balanced, healthy diet.
- For example, Sian is an averagely active woman with a vegan lifestyle who is 2,000 kcal per day to meet her energy needs.
- She also require 70 g of fat from a healthy source, consisting of 50 g from unsaturated fats such as oil and avocado, and 20 g from saturates such as milk or dairy products.
- Carbohydrates (from which she will also derive natural sugars) should be provided from whole grains, beans and peas, with at least 50 g of protein being provided by sources such as soya.
- As part of this diet, Sian will not consume more than 6 g of salt per day.
- Sian's diet ensures that her calories come from approximately 50% carbohydrates.

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## Storing food

### Check your understanding

Q1: C, Q2: D, Q3: A (1 mark for each correct, max. 3 marks)

Q4: 1 mark for identifying, 1 mark for explaining why it is efficient (max. 4 marks)

- Sealed bags and containers protect the food inside from the air – consequent oxidation cannot happen.
- Closed boxes and bags protect the food inside from pests and microorganisms, so the food cannot be spoilt.
- Packaging protects the food inside from sunlight – so that the vitamins do not lose their value of the food is maintained.
- Packaging contains information about the food – so that the consumer can choose what they want, e.g. free from allergens or free from gluten.
- Packaging contains a date mark, which says when the food is fresh and when it is no longer safe to eat.
- Packaging protects from leakage – e.g. the leaking juice, e.g. from meat, dairy products in the shopping bag, or in the fridge.
- Packaging can be used to maintain cool temperatures, so that the food does not spoil and microorganisms do not multiply.

Other reasonable answers may be accepted.

Q6: Any four (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- Chicken is a high-risk food which is high in protein and high in moisture. The warmth, provides ideal conditions for bacteria to thrive.
- The correct temperature to cook chicken is at 75 °C or higher. If reheating, it should be at 82 °C. Cooking or reheating below these temperatures allow bacteria to grow.
- For storage, chicken should be frozen at -18 °C (this will slow down bacteria regrow during the thawing process).
- Frozen food such as chicken goes through the danger zone when thawing, so ensure that the inside thaws while the outside of the chicken thaws. This may need thawing slowly at room temperature, which can necessitate the food being in the danger zone for a period of time. Cooking at the correct temperature will kill the bacteria.
- Temperature control is important when dealing with thawed chicken. Although it can be refrozen once thawed, poultry that has been defrosted can be refrozen if cooked at the correct temperatures.
- Temperature control is important when storing or defrosting raw chicken in the fridge. Ensure that the temperature of the appliances is at 5 °C or lower and that warm food is not put in the fridge to prevent the temperature from rising. Temperatures above 5 °C put the chicken in the danger zone and bacteria can start to grow and multiply.
- Cooked chicken which is served cold should be kept cool and eaten within 2 hours. If it is not eaten, bacteria can start to grow and multiply, and it should be disposed of.
- Hot food, such as cooked chicken, must be held at temperatures of at least 60 °C.
- Combining hot and cold foods can affect the temperature of food, either way. This can affect the temperature of cooked chicken, such as cooling it down and then reheating it, which can start growing.
- Food such as chicken is a high-risk food that carries the risk of bacterial food poisoning if not reheated once.

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## Preparing, cooking and serving food

### Things to think about (3.6)

Food poisoning can be caused when bacteria grow in large numbers in food or by viruses, fungi, parasites, animals or by toxic moulds. Food poisoning from bacterial contamination of untreated water or insufficiently cooked can be the cause of *E. coli* and *Salmonella*. Beansprouts are grown under temperature conditions (i.e. between 5 °C and 63 °C), this can enable bacteria to grow (under these conditions). Because of the danger from food poisoning, beansprouts should only be eaten raw or otherwise should be steamed or cooked until piping hot. Raw beansprouts should not be eaten.

### Things to think about (3.7)

Pregnant women can transfer food poisoning to their unborn babies. This can have serious consequences and sometimes lead to miscarriage.

### Things to think about (3.8)

Cross-contamination between salad items and chicken can occur from soil on unwashed vegetables being grown on cooked chicken. Utensils, such as chopping boards and knives, can transfer bacteria. It is important to use separate utensils when preparing raw and cooked food.

### Check your understanding

Q1: B, Q2: A, Q3: B, Q4: A, Q5: A (1 mark for each, max. 5 marks)

Q6: 1 mark for each method indicated, 1 mark for description of why it is efficient (max. 6 marks)

- Bottling – air is removed from the bottle; bacteria are killed during cooking
- Vacuum packing – air is removed from the package, so aerobic microorganisms cannot grow and enzymatic browning is stopped
- Pickling – in brine, probiotic bacteria produce lactic acid, which creates an environment that prevents bacteria from multiplying; in vinegar, acid denatures proteins and prevents bacteria from growing
- Freezing – low temperature slows down the enzymatic action, and causes bacteria to die. It also lowers water activity, so there is no water available for microorganisms to grow
- Jam making – high sugar content acts as a preservative and prevents bacteria from growing. The lids kills bacteria and spores; cooking the jam helps to kill microorganisms
- Or any other suitable answer

Q7: Any four from: (1 mark each, max. 4 marks)

- The core temperature of food should be kept at the correct level for the required time
- Although some foods are safe to be blanched briefly, most foods must be cooked for the recommended cooking times to ensure safety. Lower cooking temperatures require longer cooking times than higher temperatures. Lower cooking temperatures require longer cooking times than higher temperatures.
- Food should be reheated at the correct temperature to kill bacteria. In some cases, reheating at lower temperatures may adversely affect the texture or taste of food, it can be reheated at a higher temperature for a shorter duration (e.g. red meat should reach at least 70 °C for at least 2 minutes)
- Cooking food at the correct temperatures is important for prevention of bacterial growth. Standing food for a minute after cooking can also help to kill bacteria as temperature continues to rise within this time.
- Cooking at the correct temperatures can help to kill bacteria but some foods require higher temperatures. Recommended temperatures of at least 75 °C. The following durations must be used: at least 45 minutes at 60 °C, at least 10 minutes at 65 °C and at least 5 minutes at 70 °C.
- Gravy, sauces and soups should be simmering to ensure that they are cooked thoroughly. This means that, after boiling, the heat should be reduced so that cooking continues at a lower temperature for the prescribed amount of time
- Some foods should be cooled rapidly to prevent bacterial growth with a blast chiller. This can be done using a blast chiller to cool food rapidly by circulating very cold air.

## Chapter 4 Quiz

- |                       |                  |                       |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <i>Penicillium</i> | 6. Enzyme        | 10. Yeast             |
| 2. Mycotoxin          | 7. High-risk     | 11. Ambient           |
| 3. Danger zone        | 8. Tainting      | 12. Pathogens         |
| 4. Best before        | 9. Antibacterial | 13. <i>Salmonella</i> |
| 5. Diarrhoea          |                  |                       |

The shaded fields reveal this word: **contamination**

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